

THE JOURNAL

• Friday, May 19, 2000 • 50 cents (tax included)

Martin Snapp The fleeting opportunity to come in contact with true heroes [A4]

Arts New exhibit: 'To Everything There is a Season' [C1]

City manager will step down

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — In an emotional announcement during Monday night's City Council meeting, City Manager Gary Pokorny said he plans to retire as the city top administrative officer.

"I think tonight is a good time for me to tell you all that, for personal and professional reasons, I intend, with the support of the City Council, to retire from the position of El Cerrito city manager later this summer," Pokorny, 58, said to a subdued audience.

In the past year the city has seen a turnover in most of its top posts, including planning manager, maintenance and engineering services manager, and po-

lice and fire chiefs.

Pokorny had just finished a presentation of the proposed 2000-01 city budget and had spent several minutes praising city staff for their professionalism and dedication to duty.

"It's been my distinct pleasure to work with all of you, and with various councils over the years, and with this community for the past 11 years," Pokorny said, his voice trembling with emotion at times.

"Each of you should be very proud of what we've been able to accomplish, with the help of thousands of volunteers, over the past decade."

"It's going to be awfully hard to leave my colleagues, your staff, but it is, I be-

lieve, a very good time for this organization and me to move on to new beginnings," Pokorny told the council.

Pokorny said he plans to remain city manager "over the next few weeks and months" and get the new city budget adopted by June 30, and to "provide whatever assistance I can" as the City Council begins the search for a new city manager.

Pokorny has been city manager since April of 1989. A longtime member of community service groups, he has for several years spearheaded the Rotary Club's sponsorship of the July 4 Fair, which raises money for community projects.

Pokorny came to El Cerrito in 1989

after 10 years as city manager of Corvallis, Ore. Before that he was city manager of Sioux City, Iowa.

Pokorny said he plans to keep active during his retirement and is considering taking a consulting or teaching position.

As he left the podium after making his unexpected retirement announcement, Pokorny received loud and long applause from the audience.

Pokorny has had his share of critics during his tenure as city manager, but most people interviewed had kind words for him earlier this week.

"I know that you will be sorely missed by both the employees of this city and

See POKORNY, Page A12



GARY POKORNY is stepping down after 10 years.

Albany will study traffic controls

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The mood was surprisingly calm when about 40 residents showed up at the City Council's meeting Monday, hoping to influence the fate of the city's busiest thoroughfare. Council members voted three-to-two to accept the adoption of traffic alternatives on Marin Avenue pending further evaluation.

While the resolution doesn't make any specific recommendations, it agrees to identify and plan measures to reduce speeds on Marin. The city could end up with one of a variety of methods to do so, from the much-debated three-lane plan that would include bike lanes, to adding speed bumps or stop signs.

Residents who showed up unanimously thanked the commission for looking into alternatives, but that's where on the issue agreement ends. The majority who spoke voiced concern of the possibility of eliminating a lane from Marin, saying the plan is unrealistic.

As longtime resident Charles Pagter said, "Marin is a vital transportation area from the Berkeley hills to the freeway — if you take a lane out, you're going to have problems."

Resident Gerri Lee, who has sons, daughters, nieces and nephews in Albany — some of whom attend Albany High and Albany Middle schools — worried about the effects of diverting traffic to other streets. Another resident suggested coordinating stop lights to slow traffic.

One thing seems apparent — the question isn't whether or not you have kids that attend Albany High, belong to one of the four churches on Marin or ride a bike, but whether you live there.

The few voices in favor of significantly calming traffic — and who didn't speak out against reducing the lanes — are residents who view the traffic not through the windows of their cars but from their houses.

One such voice came from Debra Dove, a mother of a first and third grader. Dove pointed out that Albany is unique in that, unlike Berkeley's University Avenue, the entrance and exit to the highway run through a residential neighborhood, making Marin the number-one location of accidents as well.

Dove added, "Unlike Berkeley, there's



PROFESSIONAL DANCERS Carlos Johnston and Isabelle Rodriguez performed at the Albany Community Center for the teen dance.

Albany youth dance takes on a new flavor

Teens sample salsa at free event

By Clare Curley

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Swing dance is already getting old at Albany High. That's one reason why some 150 teenagers tried their feet at salsa at Bust-A-Move's free event last Friday, the newest dance fad. They're finding it a little sexier and a lot more do-able than swing, for one.

If you can shake your hips and count to four simultaneously, you're halfway there.

"You're lucky," a flushed and out-of-breath Gary Johnston told the crowd after he and partner Isabel Rodriguez performed to howls of approval. "I was the only kid in high school who knew what salsa was."

That clearly wasn't the case in the Albany Community Center, where mostly freshmen and sophomores showed up for the event.

Two student dancers warmed up the female-dominated audience with an initial demonstration. By the time Rodriguez hit the floor, spinning sharply on spiked heels in a black, tasseled dress that revealed more than it concealed, the girls shouted from the edges of their seats. When the couple finished, one girl jumped up, then sat down, jumped up, and sat down again.

Sponsored by the Albany Library, Bust-A-Move events and dances are funded in part by the Albany Police Chief Operator Driver Safety Program. Paul Rockwell, a youth librarian who oversees the program, says the night had several purposes aside from the obvious.

First, he stresses the cross-cultural element of the event.

That much was definitely accomplished, as evidenced by the mixture of African-American, Latino and white faces in the audience.

Secondly, Rockwell views "partner dancing," and the Latin dance trend in

See DANCE, Page A12

Schools make case in Sacramento

By Suzanne Pardington

STAFF WRITER

SACRAMENTO — After a day of lobbying and a rally on the state Capitol steps, organizers of a bid to scratch a \$21 million debt off the books of the West Contra Costa Unified School District came away saying they're convinced state lawmakers are listening.

About 400 West County residents — including religious, labor and city leaders, merchants, students, teachers and parents — boarded buses for the state capital May 11, despite indications that Gov. Gray Davis and legislators would not welcome them with open arms.

"We knew we were coming into a situation where people are worried about setting a precedent," said trustee George Harris III. "They wanted to know what makes West Contra Costa special and why they should even listen to us."

Harris and other members of a lobbying team that met Thursday with legislators and their representatives said the tone of the meetings warmed as the district pleaded its case.

The state loan, scheduled to be paid off in 2017, pulled the district from the brink of bankruptcy in 1991 and saved schools from Kensington to Hercules from the threat of closure.

No such emergency bailout loan has ever been forgiven. But proponents of debt relief say students should have to pay the price — \$1.85 million annually — for the mistakes of past administrators.

Hired in 1987, Superintendent Walter Marks tried to change the way children

VIEWS OF RALLY

■ School board member Glen Price looks at rally in his School Watch column, Page A9

■ Columnist Joe Garofoli on potential outcomes of the school district's appeal, Page A5

learn by starting a complex system of schools designed to focus around one subject. But the federal dollars and grants Marks counted on to pay for the programs never materialized, putting the district in dire financial straits. By 1991, the district had filed for bankruptcy.

Out a sturdy yellow school bus rumbling toward the Capitol, Donisha Patterson, 17, said her classes at North Campus continuation high school have suffered. She said the school lacks physical education equipment, supplies and permanent buildings. She said she was in first grade when the state bailed out the district.

"I was learning my ABCs and 1-2-3s," said Donisha. "I'm trying to make it better for the next students coming in, so they have pencils and paper."

Outside the Capitol at noon, a boisterous crowd held signs saying "Help. Hungry. Need Education" and "Forgive us. We want to learn." They cheered students and elected officials in their running cries for loan forgiveness.

"If we want to punish somebody, let's punish the adults who screwed up," said Sen. Don Perata, D-Alameda.

See SCHOOLS, Page A12

Council sets goals for coming year

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — You gotta have goals, and the City Council has plenty of things to accomplish before June 2001. The council had its annual goal-setting workshop last weekend at Fire Station 72 on the Arlington.

The council reviewed past progress and set goals for the next 12 months in the following categories: economic development, city operations, park and recreation, and traffic and transportation.

The economic development goal is to implement the recent task force recommendations to improve the city's economic footing by, among other things, attracting and retaining business in El Cerrito.

Objectives include finding an appropriate replacement business for the "old" Honda of El Cerrito site when the auto dealership relocates to a new site in the city, appointing an economic development board and selecting and appointing an economic development manager.

In the other categories, objectives for the next year include implementation of the Measure A recreational facility pro-

jects, implementing Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole financial recommendations, reviewing the General Plan transportation section with an eye to improving traffic and parking woes in the city and resolving the Measure C "shuttle bus or parking garage" question.

Some of the objectives, such as appointing the economic development board members, will be addressed within the next month or two, while other objectives will take longer.

Concerning the city's traffic and parking problems, Councilwoman Janet Abelson said "It's a regional issue, but we're bearing the brunt." The council's goal is to develop a "comprehensive, integrated city-wide transportation improvement program."

The council will also ask new Police Chief Scott Kirkland to have a "police services plan" prepared by this July and City Hall will conduct a "customer satisfaction survey" by this fall.

The council will review its goals and objectives and consider possible action plans for achieving them at a July meeting.

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Multicultural festival

El Cerrito-based Celebrating Culture & Community hosts Sunday's Sister Cities Parade and Multicultural Festival, celebrating the best that El Cerrito and Richmond have to offer. The event, held with the support of the California Arts Council, starts at noon, when the parade leaves the Portola Middle School blacktop and follows a route along Moeser Lane and San Pablo Avenue before crossing into the Richmond Annex, where the festival site at the old Alvarado School. The festival lasts until 5 p.m. Details: 510-236-3255.

On stage at ECHS

El Cerrito High School's last theater production for the school year is "The Hypochondriac," an update of Moliere's "The Imaginary Invalid." The production opens Wednesday, May 24 for a four-performance run through Saturday, May 27, at 8 p.m. in the ECHS Little Theater. Tickets are \$8. Call 510-524-7351.

Family story time

All ages are welcome at family story time, which returns to the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The free series continues through May 30. Details: 510-524-3043.

Name the spring flowers

Patrons of all ages are invited to the

Kensington Branch Library, 61 Arlington Ave., during open hours, to name the spring flowers. Details: 510-524-3043.

'Big band jazz' concert

Albany Adult Education evening Jazz Band performs on Sunday, May 21, at 2 p.m., Albany Middle School, 1259 Brighton Ave., Albany. Free admission. Hear classics by Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, John Coltrane, Count Basie. The school is a five-minute walk from the El Cerrito Plaza BART station and grass seating and picnic tables available. Gates open at noon. Details: 510-559-6580.

Schools focus group

School board member Pat Player will hold her next focus group Saturday, May 20, in the conference room of the Pinole United Methodist Church, 2000 San Pablo Ave., Pinole, 9:10:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend and discuss issues related to the West Contra Costa Unified School District. This is the third focus group held by Player, who was elected in November. She can be reached at playeredu@cs.com.

Wildcat Creek walk

The West Contra Costa County Sierra Club is hosting a Memorial Day walk near the mouth of Wildcat Creek on Sunday afternoon, May 28. Visit the reclaimed marsh at the mouth

of Wildcat Creek and walk part way up the Wildcat Creek trail to the playground by Verde School. The trail is wheelchair accessible. It is quite level, except where it crosses beneath Richmond Parkway. Meet at 1 p.m. at Del Norte BART, west side, or 1:30 p.m. in parking lot of Wildcat Creek View Point on the Richmond Parkway between Gertrude and Pittsburgh. For information, call Debbi Landhoff at 510-233-9733.

Battle in Seattle

Author and publisher David Radcliffe will discuss the events in Seattle, as well as who is hurt by the impact of corporate globalization as it is now practiced, on Sunday, May 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, One Lawson Road in Kensington. Who benefits? What changes can be made in order to have a more just economic system. For information, call 510-525-0302.

AUSD budget workshop

The Albany Board of Education has called a special open-session budget-study workshop on Tuesday, May 30, at 7 p.m., in the Cornell School Multi-Purpose Room, 901 Cornell Ave., Albany. Community members, staff, students and parents are invited to attend.

Day at the Races draws good crowd

Some 32 chamber members and their guests were on hand at Golden Gate Fields last Wednesday to view the running of this year's El Cerrito Handicap.

The local delegation enjoyed lunch in the VIP Directors' Room in the Turf Club, watched the day's racing card and looked on as chamber officials visited the winner's circle to congratulate the handicap's winning jockey.

Those attending the El Cerrito Day at the Races included Bill Kerber, Marge Collins and guests, Ann and Frank Hardina, Sewall and Reeva Glinternick and guests, Leona Seidel and guests, Verne and Joyce Odlin, Corinne Brennan, Norma Knudsen, Bea Doherty-Vincent and guests, Larry Sanchez and Danielle Cone, Allard and Gail Essex, Vic and Jan Emmerich, Ken and Pat Berndt, and Ed and Lee Canapea.

Directory to be mailed

Mailing of the new "Year 2000 Membership Directory and Community Guide" is scheduled to start next week.

In addition to being sent by mail to each chamber member, the 36-page four-color book is now available to the general public for a modest fee. It is on sale at the chamber office, 10848 San Pablo Ave.

The new directory features the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all regular and associate chamber members, a history of El Cerrito, the phone numbers of all city offices and community groups, a de-

scription of special city features, and advertisements for local businesses.

Reservation deadline today

Chamber members and their guests have until the close of business today to make reservations for the organization's monthly business luncheon on Tuesday, May 23.

Reservations are required for the noon meeting at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, and may be made by telephoning the chamber office at 510-233-7040.

Guest speaker will be Betty Jo Waxman, course instructor and sales and promotion director for Productive Learning and Leisure of San Clemente, speaking on the subject "Does Your Thinking Limit Your Success?" She will conduct experimental exercises designed to demonstrate how a person's perspectives limit their success.

Correction Notice

In the May 5 chamber column in the Journal, an item on Shem's Palace joining the chamber contained incorrect information regarding a Monday senior citizens special being offered by the Chinese restaurant.

The story should have read: Every Monday starting May 1, they will be offering senior citizens who buy one meal at full price the opportunity to buy a second meal, of lesser or similar price, at half off.

The chamber regrets any inconvenience this error may have caused.

El Cerrito Chamber

By Sewall Glinternick

Volunteers still sought

Calling the response of the business community "disappointing," Chamber President Michael Klinger this week renewed his call for local business people to volunteer for a post on the Economic Development Board being formed here.

"As far as I know," Klinger told the group last month, "not one of the three people who have already applied are members of the business community."

Since that time, chamber member Bob Winslow has announced he would seek a position on the economic board.

While any member Klinger designates will automatically become a member of the board, the chamber president insisted it is "vital" the business community be better represented on this body.

The future of the economic de-

See CHAMBER, Page A9

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Several cars left with four flat tires

By K. Osborn

CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — On the afternoon of May 8, a resident on the 800 block of Madison Street reported that thieves had stolen the stereo from her unlocked car while it was parked in front of her house. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 2 a.m. on May 9, a resident on the 900 block of Ventura Avenue reported hearing a noise at the back of her home and thought it was her adult son who was not allowed to be at her residence. Officers arrived and contacted the subject, who was indeed her 22-year-old son. He was found to have three outstanding no bail warrants, two from Albany and one from Berkeley. He was arrested for the warrants and for violating the stay away orders and was transported to Santa Rita jail.

■ On the morning of May 9, a resident on the 800 block of Stannage Avenue reported that the day prior thieves entered her home through a window and stole items. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 7:30 p.m. on May 10, a resident reported that she had just surprised a subject she described as an Asian female, about 15 to 16 years old, with long hair and wearing a black sweatshirt, who was attempting to steal a gray '91 Toyota Camry that was parked on Evelyn Avenue near Brighton Avenue. The subject was gone when officers arrived.

■ On the afternoon of May 12, a resident on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that thieves had stolen her '86 Toyota Camry while it was parked in front of her home. There were no witnesses.

■ Shortly after noon on May 12, a resident on the 800 block of Key Route Boulevard reported that thieves had stolen the exterior mirror from the driver's side of her black '99 Subaru Outback. There

were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of May 12, a resident on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue reported that he had just been by a subject he described as a male adult wearing a dark jacket and matching pants. He stated that the subject took the cash from the till with a foot-long pipe. The subject was gone when officers arrived and a search was made.

■ At about 1 a.m. on May 13, officers contacted a man on San Pablo Avenue near Solano Avenue for suspicious activity. The 30-year-old Oakland man was found to have outstanding warrants from Berkeley for Hit and Run in the amount of \$2,000. He was arrested, cited and released with a notice to appear.

■ On the afternoon of May 13, a resident on the 1000 block of Ralmona Avenue reported that while she was sleeping her boyfriend took her keys and drove off with her teal-colored '92 Mitsubishi van without her permission. Officers took the report.

■ At about 8 p.m. that day the woman again called police to report that her boyfriend was trying to break into her house through the garage. Officers responded and arrested the 31-year-old man and determined that he was an illegal alien from Mexico. He was transported to Santa Rita jail. Officers recovered the stolen van which was parked in the driveway.

■ On the evening of May 13, a resident on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves broke into her green Jaguar XJ6.

■ On the afternoon of May 14, a resident on the 900 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that a white Saturn sedan had been parked in front of his house for more than five days. The resident was concerned the car was abandoned or stolen. A check revealed the car had been reported stolen from Berkeley. The owner was notified and picked up the car.

■ At about 12:30 a.m. on May 15, an employee at the 7-Eleven store on

POLICE REPORT

the 1500 block of Solano Avenue reported that he had just been by a subject he described as a male adult wearing a dark jacket and matching pants. He stated that the subject took the cash from the till with a foot-long pipe. The subject was gone when officers arrived and a search was made.

■ At about 1 a.m. on May 16, a resident on the 600 block of Solano Avenue reported that with previous one hour vandals had all four tires of his blue '97 Monte Carlo. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 2 a.m. on May 16, officers contacted two girls on the 900 block of Taft Street. The 16-year-old Albany girl and 15-year-old Kensington girl, were intoxicated and in possession of alcohol. Their parents contacted and responded to collect the girls.

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■ A 38-year-old man who police said was driving under the influence of an unnamed drug was apparently the cause of an accident at Portero Avenue and Eastshore Boulevard the morning of May 14. He allegedly collided with another car, injuring its 25-year-old female driver. The woman was driving with a 3-year-old boy, who apparently suffered no injuries.

■ A 30-year-old woman was allegedly beaten by a friend outside of a hamburger stand at 6060 Central Ave. The suspect, a 50-year-old man,

Car windows take hits from pellet gun

A 19-year-old man allegedly approached the youth and stole his backpack. When the victim tried to take it back, the suspect beat him with a baseball bat and "full" beer cans, according to the report.

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■ A 30-year-old woman was allegedly beaten by a friend outside of a hamburger stand at 6060 Central Ave. The suspect, a 50-year-old man,

had been drinking before he got up at her apartment, according to the report. He then beat her in the car and began to drive, at which point she got out and ran away.

■ A 12-year-old boy was shoplifting at the Target on San Pablo Avenue, according to police. Police said he concealed a disc in his coat and tried to leave the store without paying, who then saw the incident and called the police.

■ A purse and jacket were allegedly stolen from a day care center at 1420 Norvel St. The 46-year-old woman, reported someone took her purse.

See POLICE, Page A10

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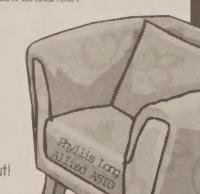
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By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

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EL CERRITO IN BRIEF

New supervisor

Bill Driscoll was named as the new Maintenance Services Supervisor on May 1.

"Bill has been filling the position of maintenance supervisor on an interim basis since November of last year," said Planning Manager Jill Keimach in a report last week to the City Council.

"With barely 12 months on the job as lead worker, Bill quickly assumed the duties and responsibilities of acting maintenance supervisor when our current Maintenance and Engineering Services Manager Bruce King was moved to City Hall," Keimach said.

Parking problems

The northeast El Cerrito Plaza parking area is scheduled to be removed off in early July as part of the new Plaza reconstruction program.

To help with parking problems that will probably ensue, the city has scheduled two community meetings to discuss possible changes in street parking near the Plaza and Del Norte BART stations.

The City Council may soon consider plans that include more non-resident four-hour restricted parking and parking near the Plaza BART station and conversion of on-street parking into paid parking in areas adjacent to the Del Norte station.

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Touching greatness and remembering a generation of heroes

Remember the scene toward the end of "Saving Private Ryan" when the dying Capt. Miller whispers in Pvt. Ryan's ear, "Earn this?"

I think what he meant was that Ryan should try to live the rest of his life in a way that would justify the sacrifice of those who died.

Well, I happen to be friends with some Private Ryans, survivors of some of the bloodiest battles of World War II, including Anzio, Montecassino, and the rescue of the Lost Battalion.

They are the men of E Company, 2nd Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team — the Japanese-American regiment that won more medals, per capita, than any other unit in American military history.

And I can assure you: In the years since the war, they have indeed "earned" their buddies' sacrifice. (Although they don't think so. Whenever someone calls them heroes, they protest, "We're not heroes. The real heroes are our friends who didn't come back." But, of course, that's the way heroes always talk.)

They were only boys when they enlisted. But unlike most Americans, they weren't in high school or college when they volunteered; they were in concentration camps

— American concentration camps. These camps weren't death camps, like the Nazi version, but they were a national disgrace just the same.

I ask you, if the government was imprisoning your parents and your little brothers and sisters behind barbed wire, would you volunteer to fight for that government? But that's exactly what the men of the 442nd did. It's hard to think of another such example of returning good for evil in all of human history.

After the war, they came back, got their families out of the camps, and set about rebuilding their lives. Despite their battlefield heroics, they still faced "Japs not wanted" signs when they returned home.

Nevertheless, they became exemplary citizens. Some became businessmen. Some became farmers. Others became doctors, lawyers and other professionals.

John Togashi of Palo Alto invented the main process for making freeze-dried coffee. (He still holds the patent.) Tad Masaoka of Menlo Park became HUD's environmental staff director for the entire Northern California/Nevada region. Ike Ikegaki of El Cerrito became the quality assurance supervisor for aircraft engines at the Alameda Naval Air Station. And

Daniel Inouye became a senator from Hawaii.

But beyond their professional accomplishments, they also became exemplary human beings. Their wives, children, friends, co-workers and — most tellingly — the people who worked for them could testify to that.

I have so many stories myself, but I'll just tell one: One day back in 1992, a half dozen 442nd vets and I went to lunch at a restaurant at Jack London Square. The waitress was having a very bad day. When our orders arrived, they were all wrong. Nobody got anything even remotely close to what had ordered.

I was all for sending the stuff back. But the 442nd vets wouldn't hear of it. "Hey, this is good enough," they said. "I can eat it. What's the problem?" Then it hit me: When you've done what they've done, you don't have to push a waitress around to prove you're a real man.

Of the six men I went out to lunch with that day, only three are still living. Every day, I think about the three who are gone — Shig Fujitaki, Ike Ikeda and Tad Masaoka — and how much I miss them. And how grateful I am that Lawson Sakai, John Togashi and Mas Tsuda are still here, for me to revel in their company and bask in their goodness.

What's true for me is also true for you. Our time with "the Greatest Generation" is growing short. Each one of us has a G.I. or a Rosie the Riveter in our life. It could be your grandmother or your grandfather. Or the old guy who lives across the street. Whoever it is, your chance to say "thank you" is quickly passing you by.

Please don't waste this irreplaceable opportunity. Sit down with them and ask them to talk to you about their memories. If you can, tape them. They'll be shy, but don't give up. I guarantee: You'll

hear stories that will make you see them in a whole new light. Besides, you owe it to your own children. Every kid needs a real-life hero to look up to.

The reason I'm writing all this now is that tomorrow the men of E Company will come to Oakland from all over Northern California for their annual memorial service at Roberts Park. And they extend a heartfelt invitation to you to join them.

"This isn't just for the 442nd," says John Togashi. "This is to honor all veterans of World War II."

If you'd like to touch greatness, come join them. We'll all meet in the second parking lot just before 11 a.m., then walk 100 yards or so to the "Landmark Trees" sign and the Blossom Rock Monument, which is where the 442nd Memorial Redwood is located.

Even if you can't make it to tomorrow's service, you can still join



MARTIN SNAPP

Snapp Show

a new, nonprofit organization is dedicated to making sure the story of the 44nd is never forgotten. It's called "Friends & Family of Nisei Veterans." Members 20 bucks a year, which you mail to the Acting Secretary, Furukawa, 3462 Ellery Court, Fremont, CA 94538. A Web site also under construction; I'll know when it's up.

I hope to see you tomorrow. Take it from me, you haven't heard anything until you've heard men sing "The Star Spangled Banner." It sends chills up and down your spine, because they really mean it.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-9039; write him c/o Hills Newsletter, 5707 Redwood Road, Alameda, CA 94619; or e-mail catman@california.com.

Harding School to host spring carnival Saturday

EL CERRITO — Harding Elementary School's PTA and Dad's Club is holding a Spring Carnival on Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

This community event is open to friends, families and neighbors in El Cerrito, Richmond, Albany, Kensington and Berkeley.

Harding's carnival will feature a bicycle safety demonstration by the El Cerrito Police.

There will also be exhibits by Lindsay Museum and a performance by Katie's Dance Studio.

The Astrojump will also be back by popular demand.

Activities include games and prizes, face painting and crafts, and a cake walk.

Some free bicycle helmets and water bottles will also be available from the El Cerrito Police.

Barbecue lunches will be available for purchase. The Masons of El Cerrito are the master chefs assisting with the event.

Police

FROM PAGE A2

desk and used the keys in her purse to enter her car and take her jacket. No suspects were reported.

■ The afternoon of May 3, a black Toyota pickup belonging to a Vacaville resident was reported stolen from the 1700 block of Eastshore Boulevard. There were no witnesses at the time of the report.

■ Criminals are getting organized. The window of a pickup parked on the 6500 block of Knott Avenue was allegedly smashed on May 2, during the day.

The suspect, who is unknown, stole a plastic organizer that had been sitting on the floor in front of the seat.

Sno cones, cotton candy and popcorn will also be available for sale.

All activities will be held on the playground, behind the school, located at Fairmount and Ashbury in El Cerrito just a few blocks east of the El Cerrito Plaza BART station.

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Opinion

School debt will not be forgiven

Rally does present opportunity for creative reinvestment in West County school district

As rallies on the state Capitol steps go, it was pretty inspired. Even a crusty like Sen. Don Perata said as a show of community spirit, its diversity was refreshingly rare.

So, yeah, the 400 West Contra Costa residents who trekked to Sacramento on Thursday of last week accomplished their goal. They put a human face on \$21 million debt the district faces the state for its bank-bailout nine years ago. On the Capitol steps, students detailed the pathetic daily life they experience in one of the Bay's most underfunded schools. They told of teachers paying copies at Kinko's because our school's copier is often broken, if it exists at all. Of classes that don't have pencils, libraries that aren't open all day. Of students who can't afford textbooks home because school can't afford multiple copies. Of classes that are combined when the district can't afford substitute teachers.

They attribute many of those debts to the district paying \$3 million in annual payments to the sins of its leaders of a decade ago. But now — with the state flashing a surplus of between \$1 billion and \$13 billion — West Contra Costa Unified School District believes the time is right to ask for (debt) forgiveness. For the sake of the kids at the rallying cry goes. OK, so now that Sacramento is seeing Thursday's photo op as its time for the real work to be done. It's time for the voters to cut a deal. And the voting for the rest of us to decide, there will be no forgiveness. At least not in those words.

Forgive, no forget

Why not? There's no way Gray Davis or the Legislature is EVER going to forgive the \$21 million the school district owes the state. No way. Paying a debt earned by fiscal incompetence is about as politically viable as a Charles Manson presidency. Or a Pat Buchanan one. Even in flush times like these.

So, as compelling as it is to a high school student carry a sign saying: "Prisons have better conditions," no politicians worth their hairspray are going to be on record "forgiving" any cash owed the taxpayers. But that doesn't mean they get creative about helping Contra Costa students. And, for the first time, on Sunday Sacramento expressed a willingness to deal. That's what went on behind scenes. While the speeches died off the Capitol steps, an stellar team of East Bay legislators and educators was inside a building trying to wrench



JOE GAROFOLI
Columnist

some of the state's surplus back into its poorest communities. They learned any deal is going to have some serious conditions attached.

Any deal can't make the governor appear to be caving into a debtor district. Especially since Gray helped craft the bailout loan nine years ago as state controller. So let's stop using the words "forgiveness" or "amnesty" and start using ones such as "reinvestment." It's much safer politically. Remember, in politics, it's all about nomenclature.

The new forgiveness

That means we should forget about a plan floated in the past week that would have district only paying the principal of its loan — roughly \$600,000 a year — for five years. That seems to have died; too forgiving, perhaps. But other ideas surfaced.

On Thursday, acting Secretary of Education Sue Burr asked West Contra Costa leaders to submit a plan that would reinvest some district debt back into school programs. Assemblywoman Dion Aroner is already floating one that would tie any reinvested funds into student achievement over three years. So if the kids don't do well, then the district would be refitted for its financial ball-and-chain.

The next step is for Perata to bless this or any plan, so it will have sponsors in both chambers of the Legislature. Having Perata on board is a plus. Yeah, he's a shameless political opportunist, but he's a loud voice and one of the biggest political bomb-throwers in Sacramento. He's much-needed muscle on this issue. Welcome him.

Another idea discussed Thursday would funnel more money to the district's 29 low-performing schools; a third would compensate the district for being excluded from the state's school-building program for the past nine years.

How soon could any of this happen? Some insiders say it could happen in this budget cycle. Could.

Yet did you notice how none of these plans mention "forgiveness"? Friends, forgiving should be forgotten when it comes to Sacramento's help on this issue. Doesn't matter what they call it, at least the Capitol types are finally listening to a community's nine-year-old cry for help. And that's good news for the whole East Bay.

Contact Joe Garofoli at 925-943-8061; joeg@cctimes.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Not bothered by planes

There are some who advocate giving Richmond a seat on whatever body recommends air traffic patterns. People are reported to be annoyed by outgoing planes flying over Richmond. Is this the Richmond with two major railroads and two major highways?

I live in El Cerrito and hear the planes, as do many thousands of us here and throughout this vast world. Jet engines are loud, especially on takeoff. How many of us are annoyed by them? I wonder.

Over a long life, I have heard many sounds of the world around me. I can recall the clip-clop of horses pulling milk wagons early in the morning when I was a boy, and the sounds of the many trains as they passed near my home, steam trains with wonderful whistles.

At night, then as now, the sounds of life around us have much to interest us. The sound of the jet taking off intrigues me. Where are the passengers going — Dallas, New York, Paris, Istanbul or Bermuda? This is the sound of life in the year 2000.

I think most of us hear the planes, and the sound is not unlike a lullaby. Now, that lowered Chevrolet that just went down the street with speakers so loud they make my teeth vibrate — that is noise!

Bob Wells
El Cerrito

We must agree

We know that sprawl development is wasteful of resources and bad for our environment, but we also know that it provides homes for the middle class and revenue for developers.

We know we don't like congestion on our roads, but too many of us are unwilling to give up our personal car and ride public transit, even just for commuting.

Unless we can make the fundamental agreement to change our laws so that sprawl and congestion are no longer the result of deliberate public policy, then all the talk on this subject is so much blowing air.

We seem to have made the agreement that cigarette sales profits are less important than public health. Now, are suburban development and the single-occupant car still more important than our public environment?

Steve Geller
El Cerrito

Incredible red herring

President Clinton is playing our country as if it were a \$2 violin. His extremist, unconstitutional tactics clearly demonstrates his disregard for the Constitution and the laws under which we live.

The home invasion to kidnap the Cuban boy from a law-abiding family is just the lat-

est example of a litany of similarly serious transgressions. The various rationale provided by individuals in the mass media of how important it was to reunite a boy with his father is one of the most incredible red herring's I've ever seen or heard.

Even a liberal law professor from Harvard stated that this raid in Miami was clearly a violation of our Constitution. Add to this your April 25 editorial, which demonstrates your editorial folks don't care or don't have a clue.

Either of these is quite dangerous and leads me to warn you: Don't be surprised when the men in black with their machine pistols break down your newspaper's door.

Either you believe in the Bill of Rights or you do not. Which do you choose?

Gary Buffon
El Cerrito

Problems of sprawl must be studied

The Sierra Club recently released a report called "Sprawl costs us all — How your taxes fuel suburban sprawl." The most obvious effects of sprawl — loss of open space, increased traffic congestion, loss of community vitality in older urban areas — are only part of the problem.

Roads to new developments are an obvious tax expense. The cost of new roads often crowds out spending for alternatives, such as public transit. The result: In many places the automobile is the only choice, or the only realistic choice.

Less obvious problems the report details are schools and utilities and services.

Sprawl often forces school districts to blow their budgets building new schools rather than making our school system great.

The high cost of extending water and sewer systems, as well as providing police, fire and emergency medical services, is rarely paid for by new development.

Fortunately, in Contra Costa, the problems of sprawl are recognized by many of our elected officials and civic leaders. The county Board of Supervisors has taken a positive approach in ordering a comprehensive study of the Urban Limit Line.

You can support them in this by calling or writing your supervisor to thank him or her for this effort. Special thanks for their leadership go to supervisors Donna Gerber and Joe Canciamilla.

Get the Sierra Club sprawl report by calling 415-977-5653 or at www.sierraclub.org.

Mike Daley
El Cerrito

Daley is the conservation coordinator of Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter.

Be realistic with fishing restrictions

Do we really think that our Federal Marine

Fisheries Agency or any of our federal laws about fishing quotas are really going to make any difference with the number of fish living all over the world? Can we control fishing off our coasts? Maybe we can stop fishing within certain distances off the coasts, but I doubt it.

Now we are fish bigots. Some fish are higher class than others. Our bureaucrats are playing God!

Why are we allowing our federal bureaucrats to stop our fishing rights? How many rights are we losing?

There are 100 trillion-plus fish on earth. They hatch and grow every year. The biggest threat to fish are bigger fish. Big fish eat billions of little fish each and every day. If humans catch the big fish, the little fish have a better chance to grow. Let's be reasonable with federal laws!

The list below states how many metric tons of fish are caught every year all over the world. A metric ton is slightly more than a U.S. ton.

Twelve countries catch the majority of all fish caught yearly. This is a list of annual fish catches from the top 65 fishing countries of the 175 countries on Earth.

1) China, 15,720,000; 2) Peru, 7,870,000; 3) Japan, 5,880,000; 4) Chile, 5,810,000; 5) USA, 5,010,000; 6) Russia, 4,660,000; 7) Indonesia, 3,650,000; 8) India, 3,600,000; 9) Thailand, 2,910,000; 10) Norway, 2,860,000; 11) Iceland, 2,210,000; 12) S. Korea, 2,200,000; 13) Denmark, 1,830,000; 14) Philippines, 1,810,000; 15) Mexico, 1,490,000; 16) Argentina, 1,350,000; 17) Malaysia, 1,170,000; 18) Spain, 1,100,000; 19) Vietnam, 1,070,000; 20) Taiwan, 1,040,000.

21) England, 887,000; 22) Myanmar, 830,000; 23) Bangladesh 829,000; 24) Morocco, 783,000; 25) Brazil, 750,000; 26) New Zealand, 598,000; 27) Pakistan, 547,000; 28) Cuba, 553,000; 29) Canada, 547,000; 30) South Africa, 509,000; 31) Senegal, 506,000; 32) Venezuela, 494,000; 33) France, 474,000; 34) Turkey, 454,000; 35) Holland, 451,000; 36) Ghana, 446,000; 37) Ukraine, 373,000; 38) Nigeria, 365,000; 39) Poland, 361,000; 40) Sweden, 357,000.

41) Tanzania, 357,000; 42) Iran, 350,000; 43) Italy, 349,000; 44) Egypt 345,000; 45) Ireland, 292,000; 46) Namibia, 291,000; 47) Germany, 259,000; 48) Sari Lan, 240,000; 49) N. Korea, 236,000; 50) Portugal, 221,000; 51) Uganda, 218,000; 52) Australia, 191,000; 53) Kenya, 178,000; 54) Finland, 178,000; 55) Congo, 162,000; 56) Greece, 162,000; 57) Latvia, 142,000; 58) Columbia, 129,000; 59) Uruguay, 123,000; 60) Madagascar, 113,000; 61) Mali, 111,000; 62) Estonia, 107,000; 63) Yemen, 103,000; 64) Chad, 100,000; and 65) Algeria, 100,000.

46) Turkey, 100,000; 47) Costa Rica, 98,000; 48) Chile, 97,000; 49) Venezuela, 96,000; 50) Mexico, 95,000; 51) Argentina, 94,000; 52) Spain, 93,000; 53) Italy, 92,000; 54) France, 91,000; 55) Germany, 90,000; 56) United Kingdom, 89,000; 57) Norway, 88,000; 58) Sweden, 87,000; 59) Poland, 86,000; 60) Turkey, 85,000; 61) Chile, 84,000; 62) Mexico, 83,000; 63) Argentina, 82,000; 64) Spain, 81,000; 65) France, 80,000; 66) United Kingdom, 79,000; 67) Norway, 78,000; 68) Sweden, 77,000; 69) Poland, 76,000; 70) Chile, 75,000; 71) Mexico, 74,000; 72) Argentina, 73,000; 73) Spain, 72,000; 74) France, 71,000; 75) United Kingdom, 70,000; 76) Norway, 69,000; 77) Sweden, 68,000; 78) Poland, 67,000; 79) Chile, 66,000; 80) Argentina, 65,000; 81) Spain, 64,000; 82) France, 63,000; 83) United Kingdom, 62,000; 84) Norway, 61,000; 85) Sweden, 60,000; 86) Poland, 59,000; 87) Chile, 58,000; 88) Argentina, 57,000; 89) Spain, 56,000; 90) France, 55,000; 91) United Kingdom, 54,000; 92) Norway, 53,000; 93) Sweden, 52,000; 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Features include dark-tint, high-contrast picture tube; auto color control, sleep timer, V-chip parental control, trilingual on-screen display, 23-button direct access remote control, commercial skip and channel labeling. 25GT240

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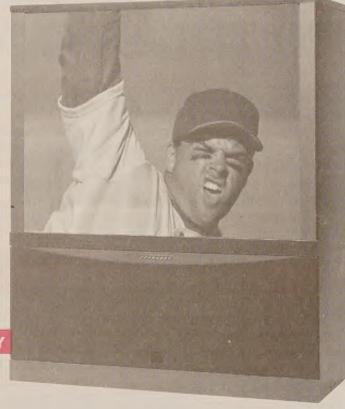
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The direct Y/C input for S-Video connects this TV to your compatible DIRECTV® system receiver so you can get the big picture on all your sports favorites. Catch all the action on a Big Screen... it doesn't get any better.

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Alpha 450 delivers blazing rewind/fast forward speed—about 48 seconds for a T-120 tape. Auto clock set, OTR® system for advanced one-touch recording. HSU446

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Using patented technologies, these bookshelf speakers use direct and reflected sound to accurately recreate the spaciousness of live music. Small enough to fit almost anywhere, they are equally effective when used as front or surround speakers. BOSE201BLK

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900 MHz means you get clear, crackle-free calling and the speakerphone feature lets you do what you were doing while you talk. Answering machine allows 15 minutes of recording time. EXA7950

SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

If you aren't satisfied with your purchase, you can return most products for an exchange or a full refund within 30 days.

Cameras and camcorders can be returned within 14 days. Please return the product in new condition with the factory packaging, supplied accessories, and your receipt. Missing accessories are subject to replacement fees. To be fair to you and to our manufacturers, we can't take back opened software or video games.

All screen sizes are diagonal measurements. P-IN-P FUNCTION may require a VCR or additional video tuner.

Eligibility for local channels based on service address within designated market areas as defined by Nielsen Media Research, Inc. Programming prices, terms, and conditions subject to change. Hardware and programming sold separately. DIRECTV is a registered trademark of DIRECTV, Inc., a unit of Hughes Electronics Corp. All trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.

12 month No Interest financing offer applies to purchases of all camcorders and digital cameras \$299 and above, 32" and larger TVs, and DVD, home theater systems \$499 and above, made on approved credit on Good Guys Preferred Customer credit card from 5/16 through 5/25/00. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary month to month. As of 3/1/00, the current APR is 23.4%. Minimum finance charge \$50. Minimum monthly payments of 3% or \$20, whichever is greater, are required during the promotional period. Any purchase not paid in full within the 12-month promotional period will be subject to finance charges assessed from the date of purchase.

Car Audio: Same Day Installation Offer is limited to 3-in-stock items and standard installations only. Weekly purchases must be made by 2:00 pm. Weekend purchases must be made by noon. FREE Rental Car is with any installed regularly priced product over \$500. Subject to the Rental Car Company guidelines, restrictions and availability. FREE Product Removal excludes custom installations. FREE Removal and Installation While Under Warranty also excludes custom installations. Lifetime Installation Warranty is void if installation has been tampered with.

Good Guys 10 Month ProScan financing offer applies to purchases of the PS52800, PS46800, PSHD103 or DTC100 made on approved credit on Good Guys Preferred Customer credit card from 3/2 to 5/31/00. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary month to month. As of 3/1/00, the current APR is 23.4% (corresponding Monthly Rate of 1.95%). Minimum finance charge of \$50. Any purchase not paid in full within the promotional period will be subject to finance charges assessed from the date of purchase.

*Gift certificates may not be used toward the purchase of the phone. It may be used toward the purchase of anything else in this store.

*One installation on all car decks \$49.99 and up. For typical installation on most cars. Installation accessories, if necessary, are not included.

Due to special circumstances, some items may be limited to stock on hand or limited to one per family at the discretion of the Manager. We reserve the right to limit quantities to ensure sufficient quantities for you, our customers.

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2 special purchases!

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YAMAHA
LIMITED EDITION
HIGH-STYLING
MINI SYSTEM

SOPHISTICATED
STYLE AND SOUND...



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\$150

SPECIAL PURCHASE!

at an unprecedented price for a system of its style and distinction, this model is highlighted by the rich appointments and attention to detail that makes Yamaha a world leader in home audio. Utilizing advanced sound field processing, it makes maximum use of its speakers to create a broad, natural sound usually associated with larger speakers. It features 150 total watts of power, a three-disc CD changer, auto-reverse cassette deck, digital AM/FM tuner, and a remote control. GX500BLACK

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■ 8 TUNERS
■ PICTURE IN PICTURE

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PURCHASE!
27" MTS STEREO
COLOR TV WITH
COMPONENT INPUT



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This Energy Star compliant set features a comb filter for crisper, clearer color, trilingual on-screen menus, EZ setup and EquiSound SRS® sound retrieval system. Plus, dual S-video inputs and front & dual rear A/V inputs for your other components and a universal plus glow remote. 27LX2000

12 months no interest*

on all camcorders and digital cameras \$299 and up!
*Minimum monthly payment required. See details below.

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digital
SPECIAL
PURCHASE!
CAMCORDER
WITH 2.5"
COLOR LCD SCREEN



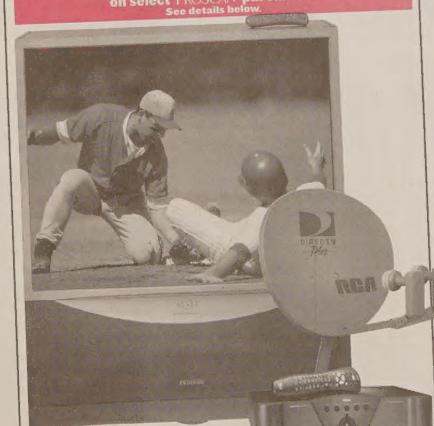
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CATCH ALL THE ACTION... even from a distance, with a 200x digital zoom. Also takes digital snapshots so you can send stills to friends and family. Includes six software packages.

GRDV700

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Decoder/DIRECTV® Receiver
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Connect your world to today and tomorrow. This unit provides 7 sets of audio/video input and 4 sets of audio/video output—DIRECTV, VCR, DVD, and HDTV, PC, speaker system, stereo, cable or NTSC, video games, and camcorder—for almost any home entertainment option imaginable.

PKG-PSS2800PRO

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79⁹⁹



Panasonic
portable
cd player

PERFECT FOR JOGGING... or wherever you want a CD player to tag along. Comes with a special soft case and features 40 seconds of anti-shock memory for virtually skip-free performance. Runs on "AA" batteries. Optional AC adaptor or car power adaptor available. SLS276

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SONY
CD BOOMBOX
WITH DETACHABLE
SPEAKERS

Features Mega Bass®, a digital synthesized AM/FM stereo tuner, CD with 1-bit D/A converter, and dual cassette deck. It even has a clock/sleep timer and its own Remote Commander® remote control. CFDZW755

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SONY
Surround
sound
audio/video receiver

Start with a 24-bit Dolby® Digital and Dolby Pro Logic decoder and DSP, then add in Digital Cinema Sound, virtual 3D and an 8-function input selector, and you have the recipe for great home audio. STRDE445



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PHILIPS
TiVo
PERSONAL TV RECORDER

NOW YOU CAN CONTROL WHAT AND WHEN YOU WATCH... because it automatically records up to 30 hours of your favorite shows for instant replay. You can even pause a live TV show, take a break, and catch up minutes later.

12 months no interest*
on all camcorders and digital cameras \$299 and up!
*Minimum monthly payment required. See details below.

799⁹⁹

JVC digital
3.3 MEGA-PIXEL
DIGITAL CAMERA

Delivering remarkable, sharp, color-rich images in a fun, easy-to-use package, this camera is packed with professional-style features that makes taking pictures a thrill. This digital camera also produces moving video e-mail, creates a multiple layer collage, and has high storage capacity on a small, high-speed Smart Media card. GCQX3U

*Accessory Bucks valid only at time of purchase, and are for camcorder/camera accessory purchases only. Ask for details.

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for you than Good Guys when you fit your vehicle with a new stereo. We promise same day installation or it's FREE, guaranteed! (See details.) If you a weekly rental car while we do your system installation—FREE! You want to keep the stereo we installed, bring it in to Good Guys, and put your factory stereo back in—FREE! And of course we back our Lifetime Warranty! See store for complete details and restrictions.

FREE installation

with all car decks \$149.99 and up! (A \$45 Value.)

SONY
CAR CD RECEIVER
WITH SSIR-EX TUNER

149.99

Features 45 watts x 4 and 1 preout. 1-color neg LCD face with green key illumination and fixed mounting. D-Bass makes it boom. 18FM/6AM presets, Best Tuning memory, and 8fs; 1-Bit. CDX1300

ALSO AVAILABLE IN
DETACHABLE FACE CDX1300 **159.99**

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CAR CD RECEIVER
SWEET SOUNDS

179.99

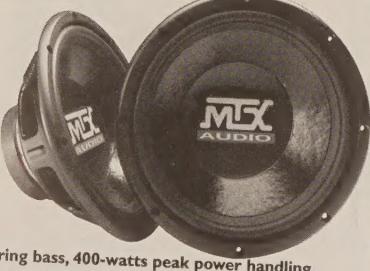
There are things that always sound good. This CD receiver features 40 watts x 4 channel high power amplifier for powerful sound and the MaxTun tuner for great reception. It also includes a regulated 1-Bit DAC and an anti-theft detachable face. CDE7853

Pioneer
CAR CD RECEIVER WITH
COMPACT REMOTE

229.99

From rap and rock to cool jazz, this CD receiver's built-in equalizer delivers customizable sound in addition to 45 watts x 4 channels of peak power, the expandability of CD changer control and dual preamp outputs, detachable face security, multi-color display, and the convenience of a compact wireless remote. DEH-P4100

Get hooked up with MX



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in-store coupon** FREE hands-free kit! Purchase of ANY wireless phone

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COMPACT
DUAL-MODE
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Mineralized prices for cellular phones are conditioned upon subscription for a minimum period to a qualifying cellular phone service plan offered through Good Guys. If you do not subscribe to a qualifying plan, your purchase price will be \$200 higher. Credit approval & possible carrier deposit may be required at time of purchase. Activation and early cancellation fees may apply.

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STORE HOURS: Monday-Saturday 10am-9pm / Sunday 10am-7pm

ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

CORRESPONDENT

Attention: Online Shoppers. Support Albany Schools by going to www.schoolpop.com to access 125 merchants including Webvan, Amazon.com, drugstore.com and Land's End. Up to 20 percent of every purchase goes back to your school. If 50 new registrations are received by June 30, double rebates will be given between April 1 and June 30.

Albany PTA Council

■ **Volunteers needed for next year.** If you are new to PTA, consider volunteering to serve on a committee. If you have already done so, consider serving as an officer. Volunteering is very rewarding and serves our children and community well!

■ **May 31, Curriculum Conversation** open to Elementary and Middle School parents featuring Superintendent Gary Miller and Deputy Superintendent Connie Hubbard, 7 p.m., AMS Library, Free child care

■ **June 6, ASUD Curriculum Council Meeting**, time and location TBA

Albany High School

■ **Join AHS PTA and receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail.** Contact Ruth Gjende at ruthg@eecs.berkeley.edu

■ **SCRIP orders:** Safeway and Andronico's scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). We are selling Natural Grocery scrip, and arranging for Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782 or Belinda Lum at 528-2429. E-mail Linda at cho.prm.lo@cho.org or Belinda at belum@pacbell.net

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

■ Having trouble with math? Help is on the way! Free math tutoring for EC High School students at lunchtime every day. Room 311

■ The school Drama Department presents Moliere's "The Hypochondriac" on Wednesday, May 24 - Saturday, May 27, at 8 p.m. at the Little Theater. Admission: \$8. Call box office for more information: 524-7351.

■ Music parents meeting, Thursday, May 25, 7:30 p.m. ECHS Band Room

■ Memorial Day holiday, Monday, May 29

■ Final Concert and Awards I. Thursday, June 1, 7:30 p.m. Jazz Ensemble and Choir. ECHS Little Theater

■ Jazz Dance, Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3, 8 p.m. ECHS Little Theater

■ Modified Day, Wednesday, June 7

■ School Site Council. Wednesday, June 7, 7 p.m. ECHS Library

■ PTSA meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 7 p.m. Room 812

■ Final Concert and Awards II. Wednesday, June 7, 7:30 p.m. Symphonic and Concert bands: ECHS cafeteria

■ Senior Awards Night, Thursday, June 8, 7 p.m. ECHS cafeteria

■ Grad Night 2000, Thursday, June 15, 4-6 p.m. Grad night preview. Parents,

- May 20, senior lunch reservations due
- May 25, Spring Choir Concert
- May 31-June 1, annual student art show, El Cerrito Plaza
- June 1, Instructional Improvement Council meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Room 53
- June 2, senior lunch for senior parents after awards assembly parent volunteers needed to prepare lasagna, provide green salad, help at the event, and make monetary donations. Call Vera Paraschak at 525-7681 or Lynn Quirolo at 527-0709 or e-mail quirolap@pacbell.net
- June 5, PTA meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Library
- June 12, Site Council meeting, 6 p.m., AHS Main Office
- June 16, Graduation, 8 p.m., Berkeley Community Theater
- June 16, Grad Night chaperones needed, call Vickie Diaz at 525-6322.

Albany Middle School

- Join AMS PTA and receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at cho.prm.lo@cho.org
- **SCRIP orders:** Safeway and Andronico's scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). We are selling Natural Grocery scrip, and arranging for Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Karen Moss at 525-2018 or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at cho.prm.lo@cho.org.
- Photos needed of Pops Concert on April 27, especially the Barbershop Quartet, for display of PTA sponsored enrichment programs; call Eliza Hess at 524-1018 ASAP
- May 23, eighth-grade potluck, 6 p.m., AMS Atrium, volunteers needed. Call Maria Joyner at 559-3603 or e-mail joyner6@earthlink.net.

- June 1, PTA meeting, 7 p.m.
- June 7, seventh-grade potluck, 6-8 p.m., AMS Atrium
- June 8, Site Council meeting, 6 p.m., AMS Library
- June 15, Graduation
- June 15, eighth-grade dance, 9-11 p.m., (sixth- and seventh-grade parent volunteers needed as chaperones; contact Dolores Dalton at kevbl@aol.com)

Cornell Elementary

- **SCRIP sales:** Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). Andronico's scrip may be purchased from eScrip, or paper scrip may be purchased at school. Natural Grocery and Berkeley Bowl SCRIP for sale Wednesday and Fridays, 8:15-8:45 a.m., and Wednesday after school.
- June 15, Site Council meeting

Marin Elementary School

- SCRIP for sale Monday and Friday mornings before school. Orders can be placed in office at any time. Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (800-400-7878). Andronico's scrip can be purchased from eScrip, or paper scrip can be purchased at school. Natural Grocery and Albertson's scrip can be purchased at school.
- Reminder: Please remember to save and turn in General Mills box tops for education to office.

- June 8, PTA meeting, 7 p.m., Marin Multi-Purpose Room
- June 15, Site Council meeting

Ocean View Elementary

- SCRIP for sale Wednesday mornings before school on playground; ask for Kim Denton. SCRIP can also be ordered from office. Safeway scrip must be purchased at school.

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 525-0363 or email: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

EL CERRITO KENSINGTON PTA

Castro Elementary

- May 25, potluck and PTA meeting, 6 p.m. in the multi-purpose room.

- June 7, pizza night, 5-8 p.m. at Pizza Roma across the parking lot from the El Cerrito Safeway. Take out or eat in, and don't forget to tell them it is for the school and 25 percent will be given to Castro.

Harding Elementary

- May 20, carnival, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. WCCUD calendar

District news

- Town meetings for communication and input about maintenance issues at the

schools. May 23 at De Anza High, and May 30 at Pinole Valley High. All meetings start at 7 p.m.

■ May 26, Memorial Day holiday, no school.

May 20, school board member Patricia Player's focus group will discuss issues related to the district, 9:10:30 a.m., at the Pinole United Methodist Church, 2000 San Pablo Ave., Pinole. Player can be contacted at playeredu@cs.com if you have any questions.

Items? Call Linda Takimoto at 237-6183 or email: ltakimoto@yahoo.com

The Head-Royce School Sport & Recreation Programs

Boys & Girls June 19-July 28 Ages 8-15

Our "Weekly Program" offers a wide variety of sport and recreational activities for one week. Sign up for one week or all six weeks! Cost \$135/wk (12 noon 6:00 pm), \$60/wk (12 noon-2:30 pm), \$80/wk (2:30 pm-6:00 pm). The tennis "Session Program" offers selected tennis activities for two weeks. Session I (June 19-30) Session II (July 3-14), Session III (July 17-28). Fee's vary depending upon the program. Call for "Free" brochure (510) 531-1300 x305. Web site: www.hrs.pvt.k12.ca.us/elcerito/



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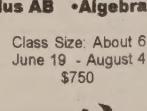
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Community rallies in Sacramento to end debt payments

On May 11, more than 400 students, local elected officials, employees, community members, and faith leaders gathered in Sacramento for an audible display of unity in support of County children and their schools. The objective: Ask for the forgiveness and repayment of the \$21 million debt to the WCCUSD for a bailout that occurred nine years ago.

Meeting activities occurred throughout the day as an advance team, including El Cerrito Mayor Mark Friedman, El Cerrito City Councilwoman Debbie Nelson, Richmond City Councilwoman Marquez, Pinole City Councilwoman Maria Alegría, County Supervisor John Gioia, United Teachers of Marin President Marta Dragos, and representative Betty Arnold, along with Harris III and myself from the board, and district students, met with state officials to discuss the case regarding debt payments. An additional meeting was held with Secretary of Education Sue Burr.

At midday, a rally was held on the south steps of the Capitol. Contra Costa Times columnist Joe Garofoli wrote, "As rallies on the capital steps go, it was pretty inspired."

It certainly was for this writer.

Moderated by John Dalrymple of the Contra Costa Central Labor Council and David Carillo of Familias Unidas, the rally featured presentations from Assemblymember Dion Aroner, state Sen. Don Perata, and Assemblyman Tom Torlakson all of whom pledged to continue working with the district to end debt payments.

The rally also heard from Kathy Rollins of PEA Local 1, Dragos of United Teachers of Richmond, Rev. John Howard of Sojourner Truth Church, Supervisor John Gioia, and yours truly representing the school board.

But I think there would be unanimous agreement that the student speakers from El Cerrito High School, Kennedy High School, North Campus, Richmond High School and Pinole Val-

ley High School provided some of the most powerful moments of the rally through their personalized and concrete descriptions of the impact of underfunded schools on students' lives.

Father Tony Valdivia of St. Cornelius Church, who worked tirelessly to promote the rally, ended the program with music and song.

The impact of the rally and lobbying was palpable as the conversation around the debt has shifted to state officials asking the district for a proposal on how these funds could be reinvested in our schools. Superintendent Gloria Johnston is working with our legislators to submit a plan hopefully in time for consideration during the current round of budget discussions.

In the meantime, Gov. Davis still needs to hear from the community about this issue so keep those letters and petitions flowing to Sacramento!

Sample letters, petition formats, photos from the rally, and several of the day's speeches can be found on the West

County School Watch Web site: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>

Harding Spring Carnival this Saturday

Harding Elementary School's PTA and Dad's Club is holding a Spring Carnival on Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This delightful community event is open to friends, families and neighbors in El Cerrito, Richmond, Albany, Kensington and Berkeley. Harding's carnival will feature a bicycle safety demonstration by the El Cerrito Police, exhibits from the Lindsay Museum and a performance by Katie's Dance Studio. The Astrojump will also be back by popular demand. Activities include games and prizes, face painting and crafts, and a cake walk. Some free bi-

cycle helmets and water bottles will also be available from the El Cerrito Police.

Barbecue lunches will be available for purchase. The Masons of El Cerrito are the master chefs assisting with the event. Sno-cones, cotton candy and popcorn will also be available for sale.

All activities will be held on the playground, behind the school, located at Fairmount and Ashbury in El Cerrito (just a few blocks east of the El Cerrito Plaza Bart Station).

Harding Elementary School is part of the West Contra Costa Unified School District. Nearly 500 students, kindergarten through sixth grade attend the school, which features a terrific staff, a super computer lab, knockout music programs and a

West County School Watch

By Glen Price

multi-cultural program for students and their families. The Spring Carnival is a fund-raiser to support all these activities and more.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to pakgren@aol.com.

Glen Price is a member of the WCCUSD school board; the opinions and views expressed in West County School Watch are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WCCUSD unless otherwise noted.

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Chamber

PAGE A2

ment program we worked so well to help establish here may well bring in well members of the chamber respond to this request for volunteers," he said.

Applicant questionnaires are available at the city clerk's office in City Hall by calling 510-215-4305.

Business representatives on the board do not have to be city residents.

more reinvestments

In recent weeks two more local members have shown their support for the El Cerrito chamber by reinvesting in the organization for another

member officials of the would like to express their gratitude to ACM Engineers and Plaza Beauty Supply for their membership.

member art award

Ray Carpenter was the winner of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce Award at the recent Art Show held by the El Cerrito Art Association, a longtime associate of the business organization.

Carpenter's winning oil painting, "In Pinole," was also reported to be the first painting sold on the night of the three shows.

Other winners of special awards at the association's 24th annual show include:

West Presidents Award, Phyllis Myers Memorial Award, Liu Shih Community Service Award, Art Champion, Mayors Award, and The Women's Club of El Cerrito Award, Ellen Yamada.

This year's Art Association event had 202 entries and developed a total of \$1,725 in sales.

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Managing
the transfer
of assets

Three-quarters (72 percent) of the adult population believes Americans do not have the knowledge they need to deal with the financial responsibilities that arise with the death of a loved one, according to recent research by the AARP Investment Program from Scudder.

"People who have just lost a loved one face not only the difficulty of grieving, but also the necessity of taking care of various matters related to the estate," says Lin Coughlin, Chairperson of the AARP Investment Program, the only mutual fund family designed to meet the needs of investors age 50 and older.

"Although the circumstances are often emotionally difficult, information and a source of guidance and support make the process of accounting for and transferring assets much easier for the bereaved to handle."

The following suggestions may help inform and guide those faced with the task of transferring assets.

These tips come from the AARP Investment Program's guide, Managing the Transfer of Assets During a Bereavement.

It is available free of charge by calling 1-800-988-8261. Of course, one should consult a tax or financial advisor concerning their individual situation.

Be sure that you have carefully reviewed copies of the will or trust. Remember, these documents communicate the wishes of your loved one.

Identify all sources of income. This includes the deceased's final paychecks, monthly retirement or pension checks, Social Security benefits, insurance and retirement savings plans.

Your own goal should be to maintain financial stability. Avoid any immediate drastic personal changes that would affect your own finances or increase your living expenses.

Prepare for probate. This is the formal legal process of settling the affairs of an estate in which everything that belonged to the deceased is carefully inventoried, and any debts are paid.

Once estate taxes are calculated and paid, remaining assets are transferred to the appropriate heirs. Keep in mind that this can be a time-consuming and expensive process that may require an estate planning attorney with whom you are comfortable.

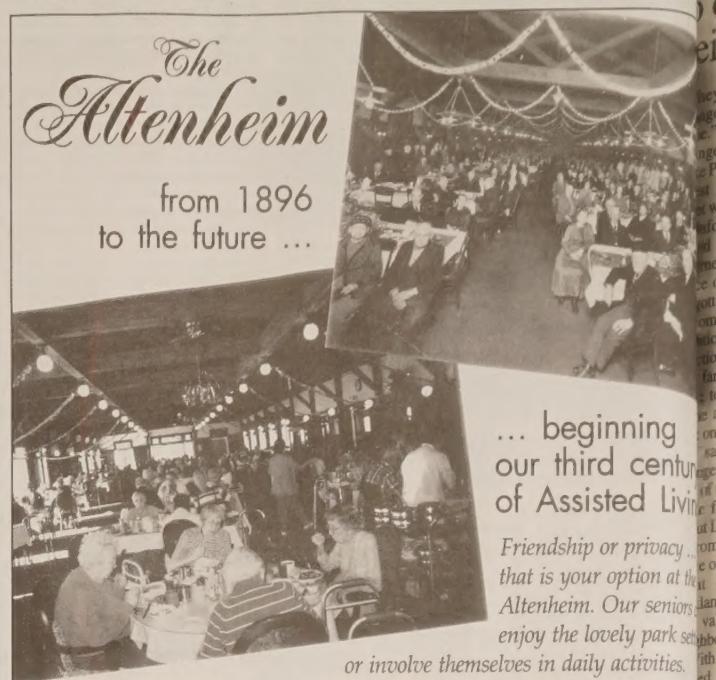
When dealing with expenses, carefully review all bills. Be sure

that none are overlooked—and that all are legitimate.

"The process of transferring assets

is often emotionally difficult and complicated. But approaching the task with a plan and a sense of what

has to happen and get a head start makes things a bit easier," Coughlin says.

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Bike-to-Work pit stop

CITY COUNCILWOMAN Janet Ableson hands out beverages and free gifts Tuesday at the 'energizer station' set up at the El Cerrito Del Norte BART station for participants in the annual Bike to Work day. Cyclist Steve Fulton stopped by on his way to UC Berkeley

Traffic

FROM PAGE A1

no Albany Unified school bus system," so many children walk along the heavily trafficked area.

Councilman Robert Good, one of two opposed to accepting the traffic plan, had his own grievance.

"The obvious answer is police and unmarked police cars. If you leave

out the obvious solutions, that leads you to more desperate measures like speed bumps. It also punishes the innocent," he maintained.

Police Chief Larry Murdo says he is willing to add bodies to patrol the area by paying them overtime, but he thinks that physical impediments like speed bumps are the answer.

Ticketing doesn't give the lasting effect of changing behavior, he says.

The force also has its limitations. "Not only is it a small police force,

but add the Family Leave Act, mandatory training, the Military Leave Act — it dwindles," said Murdo.

Murdo brings up another possible side-effect of a three-lane Marin: road rage. He said the police force is planning to propose to the City Council obtaining a grant for an additional officer on a motorcycle. The additional officer would issue citations "where our highest priority is," Murdo said. "Marin is probably number one."

for all that you've done for the city." "He's given a lot to the community," Councilwoman Janet Ableson said Tuesday. Sustainable El Cerrito Chairwoman Lori Dair praised Pokorny's work, calling him a "thoughtful and committed person," and adding, "He's a class act."

Councilman Larry Damon said the City Council has known for "sometime back" of Pokorny's desire to retire. "We have been negotiating to retire. "He has earned his retirement."

over a period of time what the final elements of that retirement would be," Damon said on Tuesday. "His desire to retire has been known to the council — it's been accepted unanimously by the council.

Damon said there was no explicit City Council request for Pokorny to retire. "He has provided 11 years of service to the city — that is a long time as city managers go," he said. "He has earned his retirement."

Anne Moore, president of Albany High's dance club, says dancing has gained popularity at the school of late.

"Basically, I'd like to see more dances and theme nights," she said. With restricted hours, dance events tend to get squeezed into limited time slots.

A good number of male students also showed up, but it will take more coaxing to detach them from the sidelines.

Ryland Knight, a senior, explained, "Boys are much more self-conscious." His dislocated arm gave him an excuse to stand against the wall and observe the circle of students that had now formed in the center of the room.

If anything, the demonstration got more than a few students to commit to the center's Sunday evening dance classes — for now anyway.

"I'm definitely going with a bunch of friends," said Jamie Vislocky, a junior who has dabbled in many dance forms.

One senior said that these events don't really fit into his idea of a social life — "You're supposed to already know how to dance," he said.

Chief stresses resident involvement

Neighborhoods that communicate with each other safer, he tells Crime Prevention Committee members

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — New Police Chief Scott Kirkland attended the May 10 Crime Prevention Committee meeting and talked to committee members and others about crime prevention, parking and other challenges facing the city.

"I look forward to working with this committee in a new position," Kirkland told committee members.

"What I'd like to see is that this committee increase in size and try to become more involved in the city," Kirkland said that with programs such as National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch, the city is trying to "bring the neighborhoods together" and get block neighbors to know one another.

"We're going back to some of the concepts that were around when I grew up," Kirkland said. "Everyone in the neighborhood knew each other. We got away from that somehow. I realize that we all lead very busy lives and sometimes we don't take that time, but we need to take that time to get to know each other once again."

Kirkland talked about the possibility of citizen volunteer patrols coordinated with a larger Crime Prevention Committee. "I'm open to that type of discussion, if that's where we want to go, let's look at that as a possibility," Kirkland said. "But we need more (Crime Prevention Committee) members, that's the key message. The more we can recruit, the bigger we can get, the more we can offer in terms of services to the city."

Kirkland was asked about parking problems and parking enforcement near the city's BART stations, especially around the Plaza during reconstruction when the Plaza parking lot will be fenced off.

Kirkland said community education will be emphasized, but that ticketing and towing will be an option if we have to."

The City Council may soon consider such measures as increased four-hour non-resident parking zones and paid street parking near the Plaza BART station and paid parking adjacent the Del Norte station.

Two community meetings to discuss the BART parking issues have been scheduled for later this month

"I realize, and I think Council realizes, that BART does impact the quality of parking, for our Kirkland said. "They're it, we're trying to help address the issue of getting involved." Police liaison Robert De La Campa attended the meeting and he distributed crime reports for April and committee mem-

viewed the stats.

There were six residential burglaries in April, with the gaining entrance by prying doors, kicking open a door through a window or simply through an open garage or

door.

Some of the victims re-

loss, but thieves did make

bicycle, a gun, camera, jew-

elry in three of the inci-

There also were 17 April

glary cases and 17 April

cases being investigated

ECPD. Eight of the auto

involved Toyota Camrys

were Toyota Corollas

Wilson said.

The lobbying effort was

critical time, when 29 of the 51 schools are designed

for performing" by the s

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\$2.5 million

West County's novice

were headed by a me

Susan Burr, interim state

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Costa school board Presid

Price and Superintendent

Johnston attended

Price said Burr requested

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performance gains, he

"A lot of people got the

word forgiveness," said

"We don't care if it is

giveness, as long as we

resources to level the pla

Suzanne Pardington cov

er. Reach her at 510-

spardington@ctimes.com

Pokorny

FROM PAGE A1

the citizens of this city and the members of the City Council," Mayor Mark Friedman told Pokorny at the council meeting. "I'm glad that you will shepherd us through this budget process and over the next few months. "I can't thank you enough

"This gives them a chance to try out their feelings — to be romantic when it isn't a big deal," Rockwell said.

particular, as a positive one in a town with few social alternatives for the under-21 crowd. The '90s saw some kids hurtling prematurely into adulthood — now they can slow down and enjoy the rhythm.

A good number of male students also showed up, but it will take more coaxing to detach them from the sidelines.

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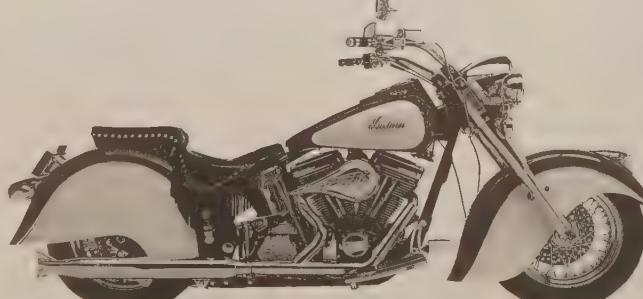
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Schools

FROM PAGE A1

The participants then broke into groups to visit members of the Senate and Assembly committees on education. But few got through the office doors to speak directly to the committee members.

A smaller group of lobbyists stayed all day to meet with staff members for Davis and three lawmakers involved in the education budget process now under way in Sacramento.

But their time with state lawmakers was restricted largely to local representatives — Perata and Assembly members Dion Aroner, D-Berkeley, and Tom Torlakson, D-Antioch. Aroner, who helped set up the meetings, was undeterred by the lack of lobbying time with other legislators.

"All that matters to me is the issue is on the table," Aroner said.

The district's chance to plead its case directly with Davis fell to a small group of students and teach-

ers — on a trip to the bathroom.

In a brief encounter in the hallway of the Capitol, students were too

starstruck to make their pitch for debt relief. But teacher Sewellyn Kaplan jumped on idle chatter about softball to complain of a lack of softball at her school.

"He told us, 'You'll have them soon because I just gave the schools a bunch of money,' and then he walked away," Kaplan said.

Indeed, the governor's pledge last week of an additional \$1.79 billion for California schools next year — with no strings attached — left some state officials reluctant to offer the West County lobbyists additional help.

The increase of \$328 per student means at least \$10 million more next year for the 33,000-student West County district.

Jim Wilson, consultant to the Senate committee on education who met with the West Contra Costa group, called the district's pursuit of debt relief "a pretty daunting task."

"All the members can point to districts in their own areas with similar problems who had to tough it out,"

Lee Frank
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Real Estate & Home

The Montclarion, The Berkeley Voice, The Piedmonter, The Journal

May 19, 2000

Section B

Tarpoff & Talbert advise: See that home with your own eyes [B5]

Weekly Sales Check out home prices in the East Bay [B13]

Earth Friendly Building to nurture Mother Earth [B8]

Owning a Piece of History

By Mark A. Wilson

Part two of two

In last week's column, I discussed the considerable legacy of Carr Jones, one of the East Bay's most original practitioners of Medieval Revival style residential architecture. I also described how his designs incorporated some of the principles of organic architecture that were at the core of the First Bay Tradition movement; such as a use of natural materials, and integrating his buildings into their natural settings. This week, we will take a look at a classic example of a Carr Jones house, which has just come on the market in Oakland.

The charming Normandy Revival style house at number 15 Humphrey Place in Oakland's Lakeshore District is a delight to behold. It was designed by Carr Jones in 1929. The first thing visitors notice about it is the rounded brick turret at the right end of the facade, with a conical spire above it topped by a whimsical "flying duck" weather vane. Then one sees the wavy shingle patterns on the roof, as well as the dynamic curves of the roofline itself.

The entire exterior of 15 Humphrey Place is sheathed in brick, a favorite ma-

Please see WILSON, Page B2

Carr Jones gem sparkles in Oakland's Lakeshore District



The charming Normandy Revival style house at number 15 Humphrey Place in Oakland's Lakeshore District is a delight to behold. It was designed by Carr Jones in 1929. The first thing visitors notice about it is the rounded brick turret at the right end of the facade and a whimsical "flying duck" weather vane.

* Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$1,195,000
172 Norfolk Road. Stunning, new 4BD, 3BA August Co. home. Located on quiet

desac.

Bill Boze 510-339-9290

Outstanding Views!.....\$695,000

225 Skyline Open Saturday 2-4.

2D, 2BA home. Formal dining room.

Property will accommodate horses.

Carmen Grim 510-524-2526

1021 Royal Oak Road, Open Sunday

2D, just listed! 4BD, 3BA, 2 car, 2600 s.f.,

panoramic view, hardwood floors, rumpus.

Kalisha F. Stasenka 510-834-2010,

510-273-9148

Running Mediterranean

garden retreat.....\$519,000

2D/2BA with newly finished lower level,

hardwood floors, fireplace, deco details, lovely!

Very commute to S.F. and more.

Ana & Forest Pascal

510-845-0200, 510-465-8150

Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$439,000

3D Longwalk. Tastefully updated 3BD,

with stunning bay/S.F. views. New

Emily Lane 510-339-9290

North Oakland.....\$328,000

6-66th Street. First Open Saturday

1D, Above Telegraph. 3BA, 2BA, sweet

in good light, convenient to BART and

Wendy Kashiwa 510-845-0200

Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$275,000

1D, 1BA in great location. A must see.

Vince Moran 510-339-9290

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Luxurious Living!.....\$249,000
2BD, 1.5BA Rose Garden Condo. Fireplace, private balcony, master bedroom suite, close to transportation and shops.

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*Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$239,000
4815 Allendale. Terrific 2BD, 1BA with new kitchen and updated bath. Great yard/patio and near park.

Felicia Owens 510-339-9290

*Live/Work Lofts!.....\$220,000
\$325,000 3240 Peralta Open Sunday 2-4. Lofts available - variety of sizes, floor plans. Expansive window lines.

Jacqueline Wagner 510-524-2526

Great Starter Home!.....\$129,000
Near Oakland Coliseum. 2BD, 1BA, hardwood floors, new paint, lots of potential!

Steve Collins 510-849-3711, 510-464-4427

Cozy.....\$195,000
2 bedrooms, 1 bath.

Susan Alperstein 510-834-2010

BERKELEY / ALBANY



*New Construction! \$1,485,000
1512 West View Drive. Open Sunday 2-4. Masterpiece: Warm and inviting with spectacular 4-bridge views!

Adrienne Nash 510-845-0211,

510-763-4060

CLAREMONT HILLS

Views.....\$899,000

Elegant blend of Japanese and Contemporary design by M. Jacobson. Views, light, hot tub! 4BD, 3BA.

Merra Garcia, Julie Lehman 510-845-0211

SIZE & LOCATION! WOW!.....\$449,000

Large 3BD, 2BA plus family room, large yard and garage, close to BART plus jog, swim or play tennis.

Devony Corry 510-845-0200

Great Opportunity!.....\$419,000

Sunny 3BD on cul-de-sac. Walk to BART, shopping and easy transportation.

Francine DiPalma

510-849-3711, 510-273-9319

*Open Sunday 2-4.....\$399,000

1019 Keith, B. 2BD plus "in-law" unit. 2BA. Views of bay and bridges. Convenient to UC Berkeley and gourmet ghetto.

Terrence Jue 510-524-2526

Sunny, Sophisticated Condo!.....\$345,000

2BD, 1.5BA Contemporary, blocks from U.C.! Remodeled kitchen, bright living room with vaulted ceilings and fireplace! Private and special!

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*Tree-Lined Street.....\$299,000

Open Sunday 2-5. 1400 Hearst. North Berkeley. 2 blocks to BART. 2 blocks to Andronico's. 2BD, 1BA, all wood floors.

Devony Corry 510-845-0200

Charm! Location! Potential!.....\$289,000

Sunny 2BD, 1.5BA with large lot. Better than a condo. Francine DiPalma 510-849-3711

Cozy & Sunny.....\$200,000

Desirable Claremont/Elmwood location. 2BD, 1BA Condo close to U.C. campus and Rockridge. Wendy Louie 510-849-3711

PANO BAY VIEWS.....\$469,000

Rustic Contemporary nestled on .25 acre lush gardens. 2+BD, 2 new BA FDR, vaulted ceiling, hardwood floors.

Carol Heath-Kim 510-527-9800

3BD in EL CERRITO.....\$308,765

2 fireplaces, 2 baths, sprinklers, full basement, double oven, terraced yard, formal dining room.

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Adorable!.....\$259,000

What else can you want - large yard, attached garage, close to BART, minutes to freeway, shopping, restaurants, hardwood floors, 3BD, 1BA, beautifully maintained.

Dalia Juslks 510-898-9444

EL SOBRANTE

*El Sobrante Condo!.....\$127,000

Open Sunday 2-4. 3806 Via Verdi. 2BD, 1BA with hill view, covered parking

Cherie Hunt 510-337-8670

CASTRO VALLEY

*Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$299,000

2547 La Don Court, Castro Valley. Immaculate 2+1313, 2BA Ranch on double lot and cul-de-sac.

David Otero, 510-339-9290

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Great Opportunity for Owner-Occupant.....\$340,000

Large front house with 3BD, 2BA and a separate duplex with 2BD, 1BA each unit. Clean units with large upside to rents.

Steve Collins 510-849-3711, 510-464-4427

Spacious Duplex.....\$325,000

Two 2BD, 1BA. Close to BART/transportation.

Joan Simmons 510-834-2010

Investment Potential.....\$249,000

4-unit non-conforming rental. All 2BD, 1BA. Separate electrical meters and easy commute location.

Kathy Florence 510-339-9290

COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT

Outstanding Views!.....\$695,000

3BD, 2BA home, beautifully landscaped, 58,870 sq. ft. Will accommodate horses.

Carmen Grim. 510-524-2526

Warehouse Available.....\$390,000

3-unit warehouse, zoned M30. May be converted to live/ work, 18,000 sq. ft. lot/42,000 sq. ft. building.

Gillian Bryant 510-526-5143

LOTS FOR SALE

New Development.....\$600,000

San Lorenzo 7-lot sub-division. Great opportunity for approved PUD. Ready to build

Kathy Florence 510-339-9290

Wendy Kashiwa 510-845-0200

Open Sunday 2-4:30.....\$275,000

1D, 1BA in great location. A must see.

Vince Moran 510-339-9290

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Wilson

FROM PAGE B1

material of Carr Jones. These bricks are said to have been recycled from a Catholic monastery in Oakland that had been demolished. Jones was fond of using recycled materials, both for their antique appearance, and because it was environmentally sound to do so.

All the windows in this house are casement style with metal lattices, and retain their original metal handles.

The dormer window to the right of the arched front doorway incorporates projecting beam ends with carved gargoyle heads. The three brick chimneys along the roofline curve upward, in a slightly exaggerated version of medieval Normandy farmhouses.

The entry hall is circular, (a popular shape in Carr Jones' homes) and has a shallow domed ceiling.

The front door is made of redwood, with a wrought iron knocker and handle. Four arched openings in the entry hall are comprised of three doors and one decorative niche. The door to the left leads to the master bedroom.

The master bedroom has random plank redwood floors, twin closets with arched wooden doors, and a bay window with an interior niche that overlooks the quiet cul-de-sac beyond the driveway.

The ceiling in this bedroom is cathedral-like, with exposed redwood beams running across its high peak.

The master bathroom still has most of its original porcelain fixtures, decorative tiled floor, and wooden door on its corner linen cabinet.

The ceiling in this room also has open beams. The second bedroom, adjoining the master bath, has a similar beamed cathedral ceiling to the master bedroom.

This room also has a large walk-in closet, and the windows look out over the backyard, with its original wooden fences and rusticated stone walls.

The living room of 15 Humphrey Place is quite spacious, with a magnificent, soaring open beamed ceiling. The fireplace has a large, tiled

panel above the mantel with a custom design of a rural European landscape.

At the bottom of the roof beams Carr placed "ship braces" which have four-leaf clover patterns carved into them.

There are pocket French doors with metal latticing that lead out to the back yard.

The kitchen was redone by the current owner in 1998, in a blend of gourmet and country style. There is a cozy office alcove off the back of the kitchen.

This room has a generous pantry to the left, and the windows have a pleasant view of the original brick-patterned patio and retaining wall in the back yard.

A delightful round breakfast room juts out from the front of the kitchen (this is the turret seen from the street). The ceiling here is conical, and there are five latticed windows and a niche in the wall for displaying plates.

There is also a small fireplace set into the wall, which is not working at the present time.

The back yard at number 15 Humphrey Place retains most of its circa 1929, Carr Jones-designed features with its terraced, upslope lot, set off by several level areas, and the yards original slate steps and pathways leading up the hillside.

The lot covers 13,800 square feet, and it is lush and sylvan, with lots of trees and flowering bushes.

The attached garage is below the master bedroom, on the left end of the house.

It is a one car garage, with an arched front door that has a projecting wooden beam end above it. The garage doors remind one of the barn doors that one might see on medieval farmhouses that dot the French Normandy landscape.

One can enter the garage through a unique, folding doorway that is inserted into the larger main door.

At the back of the garage, there is a laundry room with an arched door leading to it.

The home at 15 Humphrey Place has a total of seven rooms, including the entry hall, office alcove, and breakfast room.

The fireplace has a large, tiled

OPEN HOUSE

The home at 15 Humphrey Place will have open house for the public this Sunday, from 2 until 4:30 p.m.

This property is being offered for sale at \$639,000.



THE LIVING ROOM of the Carr Jones-designed home 15 Humphrey Place in Oakland's Lakeshore District is quite spacious, with a magnificent, soaring open beamed ceiling. The fireplace has a large, tiled panel above the mantel with a custom design of a rural European landscape. The room serves to complement the house that has a total of seven rooms, including the entry hall, office alcove, and breakfast room. You are invited to visit the home this Sunday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m.

Seminars & Workshops

Fixer-uppers: Catherine Teegarden of RAF Mortgage and Jaye rehab expert and director of the Community Housing Partnership present the free seminar "How to Buy and Finance a Fixer-Upper" 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 24 at North American Title Company, 6 Ave, in Oakland's Montclair Village. Homebuyers, investors and agents are welcome. Reservations required. Call 800-300-0007 ext. 340. Call 510-339-2380.

Naturally sound living: The city of Berkeley is sponsoring workshops by the Green Resource Center on environmental building and design. The first is scheduled for 6:30 to 9 p.m. 22 on the second floor of 2134 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. The fee is \$30. To register call 510-845-0472.

**Don't miss
the Open Home
Guide on page 16
in today's Real
Estate Section**

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1332 Curtis Street, Berkeley

Turn of the century rowhouse with built-ins and wainscoted dining room, cozy family room and full bath on main floor. Lower level renovation adds three bedrooms and full bath, opening to garden. Offered at \$399,000

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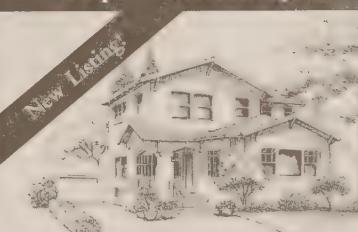
11 Huntleigh Road, Piedmont

Stunning and elegant interiors! One of the most exciting contemporary designs on the market in years! This totally renovated home features 4 bedroom suites, 2 family rooms, pool and a true chef's kitchen. Offered at \$2,200,000

Katherine Cooper The GRUBB Co.
Office: 339.0400/211
Home: 510.652.2265

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Open Sunday 2-4:30



1069 Harvard Road, Piedmont

This charming craftsman with original wood-leaded glass detail features three bedrooms, level and updated kitchen. Close to Piedmont school. Offered at \$575,000

Judy Cain

Office: 339.0400/209
Home: 510.339.0204
GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Open Sunday 2-4:30



708 Longridge Rd., Crocker Hills

Elegant traditional. Spacious formal rooms, hardwood floors, beautiful staircase, French windows, updated kitchen, sunroom, patio, deck and 3 bedrooms. Offered at \$625,000

James Garica
Office: 339.0400/205
Home: 510.832.7800
GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed



702 Longridge Rd., Crocker Hills

Beautiful expansive gardens surround this great bedroom home. Wonderful formal living and dining room. Close to shopping and transportation. Offered at \$995,000

Mindy Scott
Office: 339.0400/215
Home: 510.655.2460
GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed



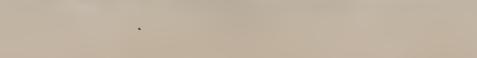
782 Kingston Avenue, Piedmont

Beautiful expansive gardens surround this great bedroom home. Wonderful formal living and dining room. Close to shopping and transportation. Offered at \$995,000

The GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Open Sunday 2-4:30



70 Somerset Road, Piedmont

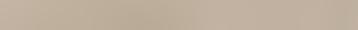
With approximately 5000 sq. ft. of living space this 5+BR/4.5BA home includes a beautiful living room with open beam ceilings and bay views with access to a brick terrace and outdoor fireplace, formal dining room with bay views, eat-in kitchen, large family room fireplace, bar with lounge area, pool, decks and changing rooms and separate game room.

Offered at \$1,075,000

Kurt Buchholz
Office: 339.0400/221
Home: 510.531.1091
GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Open Sunday 2-4:30



782 Kingston Avenue, Piedmont

Beautiful expansive gardens surround this great bedroom home. Wonderful formal living and dining room. Close to shopping and transportation. Offered at \$995,000

Mindy Scott
Office: 339.0400/215
Home: 510.655.2460
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Consumers say Internet revolutionizing industry

WASHINGTON — Nearly four in 10 buyers now use the Internet to shop for their next home, according to a new survey released today by the National Association of Realtors.

NAR's 2000 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, the latest in a biennial series of surveys evaluating marketing, demographic and other characteristics of home buyers and sellers, found that 37 percent of all home buyers use the Internet to search for a home, an eight-fold increase in only four years.

"The Internet is empowering consumers and making them more knowledgeable," said NAR President Dennis R. Cronk (www.dennis-cronk.com). "In these times of low inventories in many local markets, many buyers are using the Internet to look for their next home quickly and easily."

The survey also found that Internet shoppers are more likely to use real estate agents than non-Internet shoppers. Eighty-seven percent of Web home shoppers use a real estate agent or broker, while 76 percent of traditional buyers work with

an agent.

Despite the sellers' markets in many locales and predictions that the Internet would diminish the role of agents, the study found that only 16 percent of homes were sold directly by owners in 1999, a slight reduction from 18 percent in 1997. In previous hot markets, as many as 20 percent of owners would try to sell without an agent. Also, the median selling price of a home sold directly by an owner was \$113,000, while the median selling price of a home sold by an agent was \$129,900.

"Technology has created a new delivery channel for real estate services, not replaced the old," Cronk said. "Whether they are shopping online or on foot, most consumers still want a professional to interpret the data, negotiate the transaction, provide expert advice and close the sale or purchase of what's likely to be the largest transaction of their lives," he said.

The study found that Internet shoppers buy more expensive homes than do traditional buyers. According to the survey, the median home

price paid by a Web shopper in 1999 was \$138,000, while the median price of a home purchased by a non-Internet user was \$120,000. Internet shoppers also earn more — \$69,900 median income vs. \$55,800.

Realtor.com, NAR's Web site, was the most popular Web site visited by buyers, cited by 61 percent of Internet shoppers. "This comes as no surprise, since Realtor.com has most of the property listings available in the United States," Cronk said.

Fred Flick, NAR's vice president of economic research, said first-time homebuyers remain a significant part of the market, accounting for 42 percent of sales in 1999. "A strong first-time buyer market is important to the entire housing market. Without the generally good housing affordability we have today, people wouldn't be able to buy their first home, and families who can't sell their present house are unable to trade-up to a larger home to meet growing family needs," Flick said.

The typical first-time buyer was 32 years old, compared to 45 years old for repeat buyers. Entry level

buyers earned a median income of \$49,700 vs. \$68,600 for repeat buyers, and purchased a home costing \$104,000 vs. \$150,000 for repeat buyers. The typical downpayment for first-time buyers was \$5,000, while repeat buyers made downpayments of \$26,000 consisting largely of equity from their previous home.

For all buyers, the average length of time from contract to closing was four weeks, compared with six weeks in 1997. The average home was on the market only five weeks in 1999, down from eight weeks in 1995 and 10 weeks in 1991. "Technology is playing a role here as well, streamlining some of the steps necessary to complete the transaction," Flick said.

Consumers continue to use a wide variety of sources in searching for a home, but when it comes to where people first learn about the home they actually buy, 49 percent identified real estate agents. In addition, 15 percent said yard signs, 8 percent newspaper ads and another 8 percent from a friend, neighbor or relative. Ten other sources generated

smaller numbers, including the Internet where four percent of buyers first learned about the home they bought.

"What this tells us is that buyers think it's important to look far and wide to buy a home, but when it comes right down to it, real estate agents, along with their access to multiple listing services, are where the action is," Cronk said. "In addition, the Internet is allowing buyers to shop and educate themselves at their own pace and at their own convenience, making it easier for people to take the next big step in contacting a real estate agent," he added.

"However, agents who do not have a Web presence and are not technologically savvy are at a disadvantage in terms of being sought by the 37 percent of shoppers who look for a home on the Internet and are comfortable in using e-mail and technology," Cronk said. Three-quarters of survey respondents said it was somewhat important for their real estate agent to be "Internet savvy."

Forty-six percent of buyers hired a buyer representative, and two-

thirds of all buyers said they definitely use the same real estate agent again in a future transaction.

Not surprisingly, the factors influencing home purchase dealt mostly with location, the neighborhood, price, home and family and friends.

The full survey will be presented this month in time for the Midyear Meetings in Washington, May 17-21.

It was compiled from a page questionnaire, mailed in the winter of 2000 to 2000 consumers who either bought or sold a home during 1999 based on house deed records. The rate was 9.4 percent. Previous in this series were 10,000 questionnaires, with a comparable response rate.

The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association representing more than 1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

Home equity loan scams: what to watch out for

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

You could lose your home and your money if you borrow from unscrupulous lenders who offer you a high-cost loan based on the equity you have in your home.

Certain lenders target homeowners who are elderly or who have low incomes or credit problems—and then try to take advantage of them by using deceptive practices.

The Federal Trade Commission cautions all homeowners to be on the lookout for:

■ Equity Stripping: The lender gives you a loan based on the equity in your home, not on your ability to repay based on your income. If you can't make the payments, you could

end up losing your home.

■ Loan Flipping: The lender encourages you to repeatedly refinance the loan and often, to borrow more money.

Each time you refinance, you pay additional fees and interest points. That only serves to increase your debt.

■ Credit Insurance Packing: The lender adds credit insurance to your loan, which you may not need.

■ Bait and Switch: The lender offers one set of loan terms when you apply, then pressures you to accept higher charges when you sign to complete the transaction.

■ Deceptive Loan Servicing: The lender doesn't provide you with accurate or complete account statements and payoff figures. That makes it almost impossible for you to determine how much you have paid or how much you owe. You may pay more than you owe.

Some of these practices violate federal credit laws dealing with disclosures about loan terms, discrimination based on age, gender, marital status, race, or national origin; and debt collection.

You also may have additional rights under state law that would allow you to bring a law suit.

The FTC suggests if you're thinking about using your home as collateral for a loan, be careful. Unless you can make the loan payments out of current income, you could lose your home as well as the equity you've already built up. Some additional tips to remember:

The lure of extra money or the chance to reduce monthly credit payments can be very costly in the long run.

High interest rates and other credit costs could get you in over your head.

Credit insurance may not be a good deal from a lender. If you want the added security of credit insurance, shop around.

Don't sign a loan agreement if the terms are not what you were given when you applied.

Ask for an explanation of any dollar amount, term, or condition that you don't understand.

Federal law is very clear about what credit and loan term information must be provided in writing when you apply for a loan and before you sign any agreement.

In addition, shop around for best loan terms and interest rates. Contact lending institutions, banks and credit unions, and is a legal or financial advisor you can trust before you make any loan decisions.

Or contact your local government Office, legal aid, or services organization for information and help.

You can file a complaint with the FTC by contacting the Consumer Response Center toll-free from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, 1-877-FTC-HELP.

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OAKLAND
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 MODOC & ROCKRIDGE AREA. Awesome view of bay and Golden Gate Bridge. Large home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, random plank floors and charm galore. Debbie Budd 653-7104

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4:30: 3835 BUELL ST. - STYLISH VICTORIAN. Spacious rooms and plenty of old world charm characterize this lovely turn of the century Victorian 4+ bedrooms, master suite with Jacuzzi bath. Formal dining room with hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen & a guest room. Moon Tan 747-1620

1718 INTERNATIONAL BLVD. - NEW LISTING. NEW CHINA TOWN AREA. RARE FIND. Retail store front/ show room. Nice clean building. Moon Tan 747-1620

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NEW LISTING IN ALAMEDA!
OPEN SUNDAY, MAY 21st • 2-4:30 PM

1203 Fountain Street
Don't miss this picture perfect traditional home in Alameda's East End. It features a lovely living room with fireplace and archway to formal dining room. Cooks will love the spacious remodeled kitchen. Two bedrooms with ample closets and a bath with separate tub and shower. The deck and very private fenced yard are great for entertaining.

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Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!

4328 LaCresta Avenue, Glenview
This completely renovated home is filled with charm and includes two bedrooms, a large eat-in kitchen with doors to deck, hardwood floors. Close to transportation. \$375,000
Carin Caroe
Office: 339-0400/231 Home: 510-482-0813 GRUBB Co.

Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!

4248 Balfour Ave, Crocker Highlands
This lovely prairie style home is sited high on a hill with views, privacy and quiet featuring three + bedrooms, formal dining room, two home offices. Offered at \$540,000
Nancy Lehrkind
Office: 339-0400/246 Home: 510-653-8092 GRUBB Co.

Open Sunday, May 21 • 2-4:30

What A View!

4140 39th Avenue, Oakland Hills
This spacious 4+ BD/4BA Contemporary with over 3,000 sq. ft. of living space situated on over .5 acre lot on a private drive. Open floor plan with walls of glass and sweeping bay view, large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, two home offices. Make this a special home for playing and entertaining. In one word, FABULOUS!

Offered at \$575,000

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On the market for the very first time, this home has retained its original charm throughout. Beautiful details abound, like the soaring cathedral ceilings, stained glass window, hardwood floors and wrought iron work.

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Living room with fireplace
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PACIFIC UNION

PACIFIC UNION

Sales, median price hit all-time high

LOS ANGELES - Sales of existing homes in California in March had a 6.8 percent increase and the median home price rose 12.5 percent compared to the same period a year ago. The California Association of Realtors and Transamerica Intellitech, a real estate information service, reported.

Consumer confidence and an overall sense of sustainable economic growth continued to propel the California residential real estate market to record heights in March," said CAR President Richard F. Gaylord.

Closed escrow sales of existing single-family detached homes in California totaled 562,090 in March, an seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 multiple Listing Services (MLS) worldwide.

Statewide home resale activity was up 6.8 percent from the 526,510 sales pace recorded in March 1999.

Resale activity posted an increase of 2.2 percent in March 2000 compared to February 2000.

The statewide sales figure represents the total number of homes sold during 2000 would be if sales maintained the March pace throughout the year.

It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence sales.

The median price of an existing single-family detached home in California during March 2000 was \$370, a 12.5 percent increase from the \$312,330 median for March 1999, reported.

The March 2000 median price increased 3.6 percent compared to January 2000. C.A.R., in conjunction with Transamerica Intellitech's MetroScan software and information product, reported that 86 percent of California cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago.

Local housing figures

C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index, single-family detached homes in March 2000 was 2.9 months, compared to 4.8 months for the same period a year ago.

The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 8.24 percent during

March 2000, up from 7.04 percent in March 1999, according to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 6.70 percent in March 2000, up from 5.77 percent in March 1999.

The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 36 days in March 2000, compared to 42 days for the same period a year ago.

Regional MLS sales and price information is contained in the charts that accompany this press release.

Regional sales data is not adjusted to account for seasonal factors that can influence home sales.

The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 36 days in March 2000, compared to 42 days for the same period a year ago.

The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes is generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums is based on a survey of 64 associations.

The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

"Rising wages coupled with a tight labor market have helped create a tremendous demand for housing in California," said Leslie Apleton-Young, C.A.R.'s vice president and chief economist.

"In some areas of the state, an extremely low inventory of homes available for sale has created a slight decline in sales compared to a year ago, while prices have continued their upward trend."

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and Transamerica Intellitech's MetroScan service, 314 of 365 California cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago.

Using the MetroScan database, median home prices are generated from new and existing condominiums and single-family closed escrow sales.

These localized MetroScan statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information.

Large changes in local median

home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity.

Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Statewide, the 10 cities and communities with the highest median home prices in California during March 2000 were:

- Atherton, \$3,350,000
- Los Altos Hills, \$2,750,000
- Monte Sereno \$2,118,000

True Experiences



By Tarpoff and Talbert

Number 324 in a series of true experiences in real estate

Dear buyers, here is something you can do for yourself. Teach yourself to see better. You can save money (it is possible to make money, too) if you can see in a house what others have missed.

Most buyers are looking for the perfect house; a house clean and shiny, stylish, pretty. Such houses usually sell immediately and for the highest price. Often these days, a number of buyers want to buy the same one.

Fewer than half of all the houses that are available for sale are the sterling ones. If you are waiting for one of those, you'll have to move fast and buy high.

If you're slow or cannot pay more, you'll be dealing with the other houses. Not every seller knows how to make his house look fine. Many people are not visual. They lack color and design sense. They don't have the time or ability to fix their houses, may not even see what could be done.

If you can see what the sellers did not, your choices will be ever so much broader. This can simply mean learning to look beyond all the things inside a house.

Think about the last time you saw a typical teenager's room instantly recognizable with posters on the walls, chinning bar in the doorway, stuff everywhere.

The room probably looks better than it did before the house was put on the market—the mother saw to that—but it is still such a jumble, there are so many things to catch your eye, that maybe you just turned away.

Visual subtraction

You can teach yourself to look at that room in another way if you try. This is the art of visually subtracting.

Stand quietly and look. Imagine the room empty. Think about the light in the room. Pretend the windows are bare. What is the floor like? The walls and the window and door casings? What if this room were painted softest yellow?

You get the idea, but you'll need to practice. It's so easy to glide

Take time to look; see what sellers can't

though houses—go right on through without thinking, be overcome by the contents, by unattractive details. What I'm urging you to do is to actively look, think, sort out. Here's another example. Have you gone to see houses that the agent described as "not a drive-by"? There is something about the outside of the house that turns people away.

For some reason the seller hasn't fixed it. He doesn't have the money or the time, he doesn't see it as a problem or—and this is a possibility—it can't easily be fixed. But it might be. You may be able to fix it. That's what I want you to consider.

If you find yourself peering through your car windshield at the outside of an open house, then driving quickly away, try this. Stop, get out of the car, go inside. Actively think about the spaces, condition, size and price. If all of these are OK (or close enough), go back outside and walk across the street. Look at the front of the house again. Ask yourself what is wrong. Think about what could make it better.

Playing what if

Is the architecture really wonky? Does the whole facade need to be replaced with something else? Or are there possibilities here? Let your imagination go. What if there were a lovely tree in front, trailing vines on the porch? What if an arbor were added above the front door? Or a fence built near the sidewalk?

I've seen ugly little houses transformed with false fronts made of lattice, painted white. The result is clean, crisp lines with a forever-style feel. Would such a thing work on this house?

Sometimes houses have been mucked up by remodeling. Someone has installed a large aluminum slider window in a most prominent spot. Think. Windows can be replaced. That unattractive window in the living room can be wooden again, can be divided in any pattern, the parts can swing open.

You're going to need to get prices for your ideas. You may want design advice, too. These can be had. All I want to do is make you more aware, get you to think while you look instead of floating through houses waiting for the one that captures you entirely.

There are so many elements to consider when choosing a house to

buy. Your brain will be very busy considering them all. But if you will try to add the ability to see what can fairly easily be removed and what can be added, you will have a fantastic advantage over other buyers.

I do not want to talk you into taking on something major here. Few people should buy a house that is sliding down a hill, and maybe you do not want to do over a kitchen either. I am talking about houses that have been personalized by their owners—owners whose taste is not yours—owners who didn't rent or clean or mow. Some of these houses are really good houses.

Imagine the possibilities

So prep yourself. Look at home magazines. Start thinking about the kinds of things that can be done to a house. Some are big and expensive, but many are not. You may not know, for instance, never having had occasion to learn this, that hardwood floor people can work miracles. It is perfectly possible and not terribly expensive to remove a stained section of wood flooring and replace it so it looks exactly as it should. Or, in fact, to add a wood floor where one does not now exist.

Even replacing that short bearing wall between the kitchen and breakfast room is not too bad. The contractor will put in a beam to support the weight. You will have to contend with patching the plaster and providing for flooring where the wall once stood, but these are not impossible.

When you do see those few "model homes," notice what makes them so appealing. What exactly has been done?

Chances are that much of what you are finding so pleasing is one or all of these: Clean, spare and white. Can you provide these in another house without going crazy or broke in the process? Is the other house located where you'd really like to be? Is it cheaper?

You can win big by seeing better.

Anet Tarpoff and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

Northbrae



A Rare And Lovely Berkeley Home • \$389,000

Located in North Berkeley, this two-bedroom home is beautifully appointed and immaculately maintained. An ideally arranged split level Mediterranean; it glows with sunshine and warmth, featuring wonderful period details and tasteful updating. Come see it!

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A Mediterranean paradise equipped with every modern amenity.

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PACIFIC UNION

New Listing!



1099 Longridge Road, Oakland

This elegant Spanish-Mediterranean home is beautifully positioned on a large lot on one of Crocker Highlands' most desirable streets. It features a spacious, light-filled living room and formal dining room, den with a fireplace, hardwood floors, a breakfast room, 3 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths.

Offered at \$649,000

For additional information please call

Ted Normart

(510) 898-9421

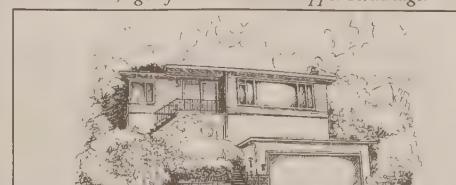
Rita Harrington

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The ultimate spring makeover

Beautify your home with a palette of annuals and perennials

LOWE'S

WILKESBORO, N.C. — Annuals and perennials are the gardener's palette to paint the landscape throughout the spring, summer and fall.

Whether you plant 10 or 100 flowers, you will enjoy the most effective flower display by following these basic tips from Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse.

Starting your garden

Sketch out your garden plan on a piece of paper before you begin to plant.

This will help you visualize spacing and color combinations.

Be sure to check how much sun and shade your yard receives, so that you place the correct plants in the correct areas of the yard.

To prepare flowerbeds properly, you must purchase rich, organic material; break up hard-packed soil; and create sufficient drainage in your planting area. Lowe's suggests digging the soil to a depth of 12 to 18 inches, working in plenty of peat moss, leaf mold, or compost to ensure good drainage.

You can start your garden with transplants or seeds. Lowe's suggests the following tips:

■ Select plants that bloom at different times of the season so you always have a variety of color;

■ Follow the tall-to-small rule by planting larger, sturdier plants in the back, and smaller, more delicate plants in the front;

■ Rather than plant a single row of color, mass your colors in broad sweeps. Repetition of these unify your garden; and

■ Allow plenty of room for plants to grow to their mature size. Many perennials have an aggressive nature, requiring ample space

or even barriers to confine them. A fence or shrub border provides a nice background for flowers. The combination of fences, trees, shrubs, groundcovers and flowers help define space, create outdoor rooms

ing as those among flowers — and they last longer. Foliage plants also add interesting texture, which is important in garden design.

Complementary colors (violet and yellow, blue and orange, red

and annuals and perennials are the gardener's palette to paint the landscape throughout the spring, summer and fall.

and beautify your landscape.

Regular workouts

To improve growing conditions in poor soil, add slow-release fertilizer such as Sta-Green(R) Nursery Special Plant Food and several inches of compost.

Adding fertilizer and compost to any type of soil will help keep flowers healthy and vibrant. Developing eight inches of premium soil is ideal for helping annual and perennial root systems grow stronger.

During periods of drought, water your flowerbeds with an inch of water per week.

Perennials will remain in place for years, while annuals must be replaced every year. Therefore use perennials as the framework around which you plan the annuals.

Consider using foliage plants. Color contrasts among foliage are often as striking

and green) tend to intensify each other.

Neutral or subdued hues planted between brilliant colors will prevent clashes and make the brighter colors more prominent.

Colors are either warm or cool, depending upon the hue. Reds and yellows are warm and can create a dramatic, bold sweep of color. Whites, blues and violets are cooler and create a more subdued design.

A color scheme that combines both warm and cool colors will create visual movement in the garden.

A colorful border can be used to edge one side of the lawn, helping to define the open lawn and give the garden a sense of enclosure.

A neutral background enhances the interplay of color in the garden and allows you to create your own personal design.



MORRIS & JAMES CAREY
On the House

IF YOU'RE LUCKY enough to have an underground drainage system on your property, today's column may not be important to you. If someone went through all the trouble and cost of installing drain lines around your place, you probably don't have a water-pounding problem.

The rest of us aren't so lucky. We must rely on passively managed drainage. That's where the contour of the ground surrounding our home gradually slopes away from the house and toward the public storm drain system.

When it rains and when excessive irrigation occurs, water is supposed to travel along the surface to a safe place away from the house — without puddling or ponding.

But it doesn't always happen that way. When surface water doesn't do what it's supposed to, you can expect problems.

House shifting? Got a leaky basement? Is ponding water in your yard a problem? Want to know an easy way to divert the gopher-causing liquid and make it all go away? Without designing and building a full-blown underground drainage system?

All you have to do is create your own "dry well," sort of a mini storm-drain system. The toughest part of the job is digging, and the most expensive part is nothing more than a plastic trash can.

Simple and clever

Installing a conventional underground drainage system can be difficult at best. It can involve burying hundreds of feet of pipe. And once a yard has been fully landscaped, the level of difficulty increases substantially. Patios, walks, decks, sheds and fences can be insurmountable obstacles.

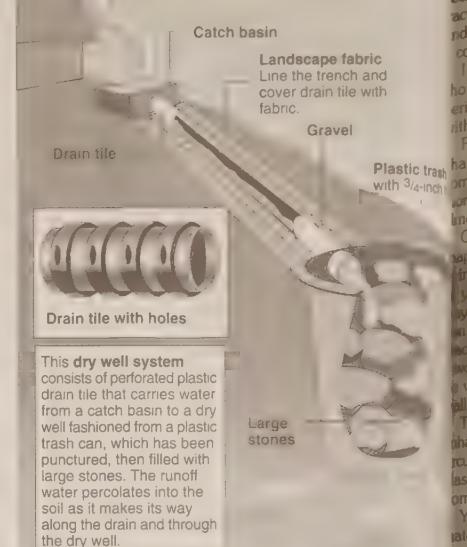
With a dry well, existing obstructions aren't so important. That's because there's usually only a very short distance between the location where the flooding is taking place and the point where the water will be discharged. Here's what it's all about.

A dry well is a simple and

Creating drainage systems may make sense for you.

Drain water away from home with a dry well

A dry well system typically consists of buried drain pipes running from a catch basin to a collection container that allows water to disperse and be absorbed slowly into the surrounding soil some distance away.



This dry well system consists of perforated plastic drain tile that carries water from a catch basin to a dry well fashioned from a plastic trash can, which has been punctured, then filled with large stones. The runoff water percolates into the soil as it makes its way along the drain and through the dry well.

clever system used for draining excess water out of a low spot or from a water-laden area such as at the foot of a downspout.

A dry well is a surprisingly inexpensive system that consists of a buried drainpipe that runs from a small catch basin (where the water ponds) to a collection container (a plastic trash can in our example) somewhere away from the house.

And get this: The collection container never has to be emptied. That's because it gets filled with holes. Excess water drains into the

buried container and then through the holes, where it enters the surrounding soil.

Rocks are placed within the collection container and serve as a protective layer.

The weight prevents the container from popping up or ground. Also, it prevents the container from being crushed by heavy vehicles.

See DRAINAGE, Page 10

Hills Newspapers
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7133 Norfolk Drive, Oakland

The exterior: A bold organic design which draws its inspiration from the surrounding landscape, high on a hill above the city.

The interior: A wonderfully warm, inviting space featuring a graceful curving staircase and many original artistic details. Four bedrooms and four and half baths plus a Japanese soaking tub.

Lush canyon views from almost every window of this exciting new contemporary!

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PACIFIC UNION

UPPER OAKMORE
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1817 Carter Street, Oakland

Reflecting the 1950's architecture, this Contemporary with an open floor plan has French doors which flow out to the beautiful patio from the living room and dining room. The retro kitchen is cheerful and spacious and has an eating area. There is also a family room, four bedrooms, two and a half baths, including master suite, and two-car garage.

Offered at \$539,000

Donna Costella

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Redwood Heights 38 Selkirk Street, Oakland

Stunning custom home with four spacious bedrooms, two newly remodeled baths. Bright and sunny. Floor plan includes large family room, recreation bonus room, remodeled kitchen with access to deck, attached garage and spa. Quiet private street.



Offered at \$495,000

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Ouch!

Has market volatility left your mutual fund portfolio smarting?

Market volatility may be more than just a pain in the neck. After years of gains, you may have suddenly lost — and any loss is painful. Are you scratching your head and wondering what happened? It may be time to re-examine your mutual fund mix to see if your investments are divided among the most appropriate funds, based on current market trends and your goals and objectives.

Is your mutual fund mix right for today's market?

An A.G. Edwards investment professional can sit down with you and conduct a mutual fund portfolio review and in-depth analysis. We will work with you to enhance your investment potential while managing your risk. Call A.G. Edwards today to schedule a meeting — it's painless.

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12 Conrad Court, Montclair

Incredibly charming on a great cul-de-sac, this cottage has wonderful wood views. The kitchen is beautiful as well as functional and the eating area with French doors that lead to the side garden.

- 2 bedrooms, 1 bath
- 1082 living square feet
- Fireplace in living room
- Formal dining room
- Terraced backyard
- 1 car garage

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OPEN THURSDAY • MAY 25 • 6-8 P.M.



3033 Carlsen Street, Oakland

Panoramic Bay and San Francisco views as you enter this charming home. Tastefully remodeled kitchen. Hardwood floors in living/dining room. Two bedrooms, home office and laundry on lower level. Workshop room. Spectacular rear with patio, lawn area and lovely mature landscaping. A

home for those who love to garden. Don't miss!



Offered at \$329,500

Diane Earl McCan

Redwood Heights Specialist

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PACIFIC UNION

Fireplace choices are almost limitless

V. Menzie and Ron Nodine
THE BALTIMORE SUN

Nothing like a few unseasonably
rainy nights to remind us that
winter is hard on houses.
Now that summer is around the
corner, this may be the best time to
check your heating system to see
if it is working properly.

Don't wait until it gets cold again
to find out there's something wrong.
Because by then all the heating con-
tractors in the area will be swamped
and you could be without heat for
a couple of days.

If you use a fossil fuel, you
should have the chimney cleaned
periodically. This is especially true
with wood-burning fireplaces.

Fireplaces and wood stoves have
changed over the decades, be-
coming more energy-efficient and
more versatile; now, the choices are
almost limitless.

Gas fireplaces come in many
sizes and sizes, and they are easy
to install almost anywhere, as long
as you have access to gas and a
place to get the gas line to the loca-
tion. The flue required by a gas fire-
place is much smaller than that for
wood-burning one, and some can be
vented horizontally through a
wall.

They also offer many features to
enhance their function, such as heat
radiators to increase efficiency and
glass doors to help prevent heat
from escaping the room.

You can get pilotless ignition (no
matches required), a thermostat to
control the temperature in the room
and a remote control to regulate the
heat.

Many people like the idea of a
gas fireplace because gas is clean
and efficient, and there's no need
to find wood, split wood, stack
wood or clean up after burning
wood. Gas fireplaces cost about
\$1,000 to \$2,000, depending on the
type of unit and difficulty of in-
stallation.

Wood-burning fireplaces are
available in the prefab variety. They
are constructed in a metal box with
a fire brick liner inside. The box it-
self can be installed with a 1-inch
clearance to combustible materials
(such as wood framing).

The chimney is also made of
metal. Most are made with three
walls, one inside the other, with a
1-inch space between them.

The chimney requires only a 2-
inch clearance to combustible ma-
terials. The low clearance require-
ments of this type of unit allow it to

be installed easily in most houses.

But unlike the gas flue, a wood-
burning chimney must be vented a
required distance above the
roofline.

Often the biggest objection peo-
ple have to this type of fireplace is
the big pipe sticking out of the roof.
Sometimes you have to run the
chimney through a second-floor
closet or out and up the exterior
wall to clear the roof.

Whatever the fuel is, you can fin-
ish the inside of the fireplace in a
number of ways. To use brick or
stone, you would need to have a
foundation to support the weight.

The lighter alternatives include
ceramic tile, slate or marble as a
surround and hearth. There are
also manufactured products, such as
cultured stone, that are much
lighter than the real thing, though

they look quite realistic.

Prefab fireplaces are relatively
inexpensive, about \$2,000 to
\$4,000, depending on the type of
unit, the cost of installation and the
finishes.

Masonry fireplaces are a differ-
ent animal, however.

They are usually too difficult to
install in an existing house, but if
you are building a new house, the
only problems might be expense
and placement.

In a house Ron is building for
Charles and Kathleen Minicappelli,
the couple wanted a real wood-
burning fireplace in the family
room, which is above a walk-out
basement.

Please see FIREPLACE, Page 11

Drainage

FROM PAGE B6

Dig in

The first step is to dig a trench
from the area where the water is
ponding to the location of the dry
well.

The trench should be about 18
inches deep and just wide enough
to hold your perforated drainpipe.

The trench should slope down-
ward as it travels from the catch
basin location to the dry well.

The slope should be about $\frac{1}{4}$ -
to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch per foot (more slope is
better).

In any event, water poured into
the trench should drain readily to-
ward the dry well.

With the trench completed, it's
time to bury the trash can.

Nothing special here; just dig.
You can leave a portion of the can
above grade or completely bury it,
whichever you prefer.

However, before the can is
placed in the hole, line both the
trench and the hole with landscape
fabric or burlap.

Be sure that the excess fabric
laps over the edges of the trench.

The fabric prevents surround-
ing earth from getting into the sys-
tem and clogging it up.

Place the can in the hole and fill
it with larger rocks.

With the container now in place,
you cover the fabric in the trench
with a couple of inches of gravel or
small drain rock.

Installing the drainpipe (perfora-
tions down) from the catch basin to

the dry well follows.

Cut a hole in the container just
large enough for one end of the
drainpipe to fit through.

The drainpipe should protrude
into the container about 2 to 3
inches.

The drainage grate should be
connected to the other end and back-filled.

Finally, cover the top of the
drainpipe and the top of the con-
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Prioritizing choices for 'green building'



MARK DEMAIO AND SIMON LANG work on a wall of DeMaio's straw bale home in Concord.

The means by which we design and build our houses have impacts on almost every level of the environment, and prioritizing the choices we make is essential for making our buildings as environmentally responsible as possible.

Before making those choices, we have to recognize what the impacts are, so that we can make decisions that have the most effect. Buildings consume approximately 40 percent of total energy in the United States, and about two-thirds of the electricity. The overuse of energy, which is mostly derived from fossil fuels, is considered the primary factor in global warming. There are also more subtle effects of construction and energy use.

For example, suburban sprawl not only takes valuable lands, but increases energy use in automobile miles traveled. Construction also consumes about half of all softwoods, primarily for framing in residential projects. At the same time, modern

houses are filled with a variety of toxic materials, including complex petrochemicals that are known or suspected carcinogens. The EPA considers the indoor environment many more times toxic than the outdoors. Finally, approximately 20-25 percent of our solid waste is construction debris, a major impact on our overburdened landfills.

Environmental Building News, a trade publication from Vermont, published an excellent list of considerations for establishing priorities.

1. **Reduce energy use in building operations and materials.** Energy used to heat, cool and operate buildings affects our local and global environment, and there is concern that our very existence may hinge on how carefully we manage energy use. Design decisions will have a continuing impact for decades to come, while great cost savings can be achieved through careful design and integration of building systems. Embodied energy, the energy to cre-

ate materials, should also be considered when selecting products.

2. **Re-use and/or salvage as much of the existing building as possible.** The existing building embodies not only great material wealth, it also carries a whole cultural history. Materials in the building cannot easily be replaced, and there is great value in many of the elements of the original construction.

3. **Create community.** The creation and maintenance of strong communities preserves natural resources and reduces sprawl. Investing in our existing neighborhoods also reduces the need for new infrastructure, such as roads and water systems. A strong community is also more likely to be preserved, and will grow with local amendments, such as shopping and local parks.

4. **Reduce material use through design.** Optimize space and material efficiency. Careful design may

See GREEN, Page B12

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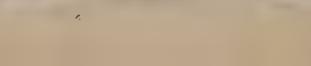
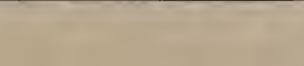
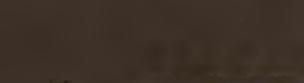
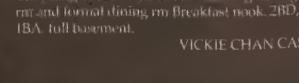
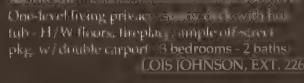
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TOM ERWIN



How can I avoid a law suit?

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer
sdfsfsag

Unfortunately there are sellers who have been sued by buyers after a home sale. It's easy to understand how this can happen. Owning a home is the biggest investment most people make in their lifetimes. When something goes wrong after a sale, it's natural for the aggrieved party to look to someone for satisfaction.

Don't waive contingencies

In competitive markets, some buyers waive the inspection contingency to give themselves an advantage over other buyers who are bidding on the same property. This can lead to trouble for both buyer and seller.

One seller was sued after closing by a buyer who discovered a serious drainage problem after the transaction closed. The buyers had relied on a seller's pre-sale inspection report. They did not have another inspection done by their own inspector because they didn't want to complicate their offer with an inspection contingency. There were 14 other offers on the property.

Sellers who receive an offer that doesn't include an inspection contingency might consider including one for everyone's protection.

Dian Hymer is a broker associate with Coldwell Banker and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available Chronicle

A seller was sued successfully by a buyer because he failed to accurately disclose the condition of the roof.

ever-closing disputes don't arise? Real estate disputes often involve misrepresentation. For example, let's say the sellers believe their property measures one-half acre. They include this information in the advertising about the property and a buyer relies on this information when he makes his offer. If the buyer later discovers that the property is actually only a quarter acre, he may have a legitimate legal claim against the seller for misrepresentation.

Always confirm figures

Unless you can confirm square footage or acreage, these figures won't be included in your advertising materials. Even if your intentions are good, if you're wrong, and buyers rely on this information to their detriment, you may be held responsible.

Another common cause of property disputes is lack of disclosure. Some laws differ on what sellers must disclose about their property when they sell, but most states require sellers to disclose material facts about the property. A material fact is something that would reasonably affect a buyer's decision to buy or the price he'd be willing to pay.

One seller was sued successfully by the buyer because he failed to accurately disclose the condition of the roof. The disclosure statement asked about the roof. The seller didn't know but he guessed that the roof was about 8 years old. The buyer relied on this information and didn't have the roof inspected.

ever, ever guess

After the closing, the buyer became friendly with a neighbor. The neighbor claimed that the seller told him that the roof had leaked during the previous winter. Furthermore, the seller had called several roofers for estimates to replace the roof. Never tell when you're making disclosures about your property.

If you don't know the answer to a question, it's better to answer "unknown" than it is to guess. If you answer "unknown" to a question and buyers feel they need to know the answer, they can hire an expert to give them an opinion. It's a good idea to pass all reports you have on your property on to the buyers before the closing.

Even if the reports contain negative information about the property, better to have this information in the open before closing. An ever-closing law suit could be time-consuming and expensive. If you're a real estate agent, make sure

Berkeley offering after-hours building inspection

The city Building and Safety Division has approved a pilot program offering building inspection services after normal business hours for those who have difficulty scheduling inspections.

The program, which will run on a trial basis through June 30, will include certain types of electrical and mechanical work, interior remodels, water heater installations and seismic upgrades, among other services. Larger projects will not be done and the types of inspection done will depend on the amount of lighting available to make the inspection during days when it still gets dark early.

The department says that if the test period is successful the program may be continued. It emphasizes that this does not mean any curtailment of its regular business hours.

The program will be available from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., light permitting, and will carry an \$85 fee.

To inquire about the program, call 510-883-6544.

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This information is current as of May 16, 2000. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-in periods. The rates and terms stated are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Max. loan amount is \$100,000. Minimum amount \$25,000. Jumbo loans are in excess of \$125,000. Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is the true cost of a mortgage, reflecting the cost of a monthly payment at a given interest rate. The APR is likely to be higher than the stated note rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other fees and costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. For more information on the APR, call 1-800-CNS-8525. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator, including tips and definitions of terms, please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com. Copyright 2000 Consumer News Systems

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"COMING SOON" S.F. BAY VIEWS



270 Scenic Avenue, Piedmont

Overlooking the San Francisco Bay is this handsome brown shingled home enhanced with art deco touches. An ideal home for both formal and informal entertaining with quality craftsmanship evidenced in its classic renovation.

4 bedrooms/2.5 baths

Hand painted fireplace • Formal dining room
Redwood deck and family room with great views
Private, landscaped garden and flagstone patio

Offered at \$995,000

For more information, or a private showing, please call

Martha Holstlaw CRS
(510) 339-6460 ext. 312

PACIFIC UNION

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

Visit our website at www.marvingardens.com



VIEWS OF THE BAY • Open Sun. 2-4 • \$245,000

Well-maintained, light and bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with fresh interior paint and refinished hardwood floors. In a rural area of Old Pinole. Large lot for the keen gardener!

1120 Belfair, Pinole • Barbara Kaplan 559-2910



ESCAPE THE HUSSLE AND BUSTLE • \$265,000

Enter the garden path and follow the steps up to the front door. The front door is 3/4" thick and has a decorative glass panel. The interior is a bright sun room with a fireplace and a large window overlooking the garden.

Check out the lovely garden www.marvingardens.com

Bonnie Scott 559-2903



BEAUTIFUL CANYON VIEW • Open Sun. 1:30-4:30 • \$635,000

Privacy prevails in this inviting 4 br, 3 ba home. See 3000 sq. ft. above ground swimming pool, extensive decking, sunken hot tub off master bedroom suite, hardwood floors, built-ins and more!

1467 Rifle Range Rd., El Cerrito • Doris Alexander 559-2938



WONDERFUL LIGHT FILLED HOME • Open Sun. 2-4-30 • \$339,000

Featuring three plus bedrooms, two baths, a large kitchen and filtered bay views. Beautiful random plank hardwood floors and a fireplace in the living room. Huge two car garage. A short walk to BART.

6419 Hagen Ave., El Cerrito • Richard Morrison 527-2700 x32



WONDERFUL DUPLEX OR SINGLE FAMILY HOME

Open Sun. 2-4 • \$395,000

Don't miss this delightful turn-of-the-century home with unspoiled original built-ins. Once a single family home, now a legal duplex. Both units have unique and charming original details. Don't miss!

1737 Bancroft Way, Berkeley • Alice McLeish 527-2700 x35

7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE., EL CERRITO • 527-9111

1577 SOLANO AVE., BERKELEY • 527-2700

When it's your move...

Government can help you build affordable rental units

Q: Can anyone explain the best way to build affordable rental units in the Bay Area? The only properties that I have seen are old and need many repairs, in an area not likely to appreciate, or they cost so much to build it's not a viable investment.

A: Look for sources of public money. Local housing departments can tell you about special financing and funding available for qualifying low- and moderate-income housing. If your city has established a redevelopment agency and learn about its plan and programs. You need a boost from the government to overcome economic obstacles to building affordable housing.

— Jeffrey P. Widman, attorney

MLS access

Q: Other than becoming a real estate agent or broker, is there a way I can access the multiple listing service for free or for a fee? Are county records available on the Web, especially owners-of-record?

A: Access to MLS in the Bay Area is limited to subscribing members. Some MLS services offer limited information on the Internet. R.E. InfoLink (www.mlslistings.com) covers large portions of the Bay Area, but each listing contains a fraction of the information available to subscribing members. County record Web sites are fee sites targeted to title companies and real estate agents.

— John Reyes,
Re/Max Group South Bay

Second-home status

Q: My husband and I own a

house. We want to buy another and keep both homes. Is it possible to own another house and declare the existing house as a vacation or second home? What are the tax implications? The current home is worth more than what we originally paid. If we declare it a vacation home, can we sell it later and exclude up to \$500,000 in capital gains?

A: The exclusion rules will allow you to keep your current house as a second or vacation home and still take the exclusion, provided you sell the property within three years of establishing a new primary residence. You would still meet the two-out-of-five-year ownership and two-out-of-five-year use tests if the property is sold before the end of the third year. It is not necessary to declare your current house as a second home. Maintain good records in the event you taxes are audited.

— Sam J. Gilstrap, enrolled agent/real estate broker

A: Also, as a vacation home, you will be able to deduct the

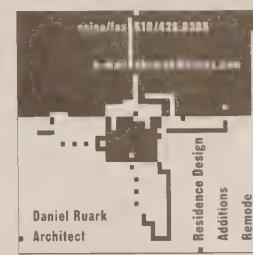
property taxes and mortgage interest just as you would with a primary residence. However, the total of the mortgages on the two places must not exceed \$1 million in order for you to deduct all the mortgage interest. A specific "vacation home" declaration isn't necessary. As long as you aren't renting it for more than 14 days in a year, or using it in a business, it will be your second home, or vacation home, by definition.

— Leonard W. Williams,
CPA, Sunnyvale

Square-footage shortage

Q: When we bought our house, the seller's agent said the home had more than 1,660 square feet. An appraisal disclosed only 1,632 square feet. The comparables and our purchase were based upon these figures. The appraiser wrote, and I quote, "The property is a rental, and owner being out of town, it is being sold slightly

Please see GOVERNMENT, Page B11



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Taliesin-trained architect providing
complete professional design
services for custom residential
projects throughout California.
A design and service-oriented
business dedicated to individual
craftsmanship and careful detail
for your family's home.**

Daniel Ruark
Architect

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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(510) 339-8400

14576 OUTRIGGER DR.—
Three Bedrooms, 2.5 baths,
two 1-car garages. **SOLD**.
Beautiful townhouse at
Marina Seagate \$250,000.

ALAMEDA—New Listing
1101 LINCOLN **SOLD**. One
bedroom, 1 bath. Formal
dining room. \$185,000

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MONDAY, 12 Noon
Copy Delivery:
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New Listing!
\$399,000

5800 Pinewood, Oak
Open Sunday 2-4 pm

New Listing!
\$495,000

639 Colusa, Berk
Open Sunday, 2-4 pm

New Listing!
\$345,000

609 Evelyn, Albany
Open Sunday, 2-4 pm

New Listing!
\$839,000

834 Mendocino, Berk
Open Sunday, 2-4 pm

New Listing!
\$359,000

723 Richmond, El Cerrito
Open Sunday, 2-4 pm

New Listing!
\$179,000

921 Agar, Oak
Open Sunday, 2-4 pm

PREMIER HOME



Nestled in a private parklike setting on two lots in the North Berkeley Hills, this 3 1/2+2 home with in-law apt. is an architectural gem with a dramatic Great Room, striking fireplace, vaulted ceilings, open trusses and redwood paneling. Lovely views of the Bay, San Francisco and the Golden Gate add to the appeal of this home.

523 Spruce, Berkeley

\$850,000

Open Sunday 2-4

PACIFIC UNION

JUST ASK OUR CLIENTS

Our Pacific Union Agent was great. She instilled confidence in us, for our house meeting all of our requirements and worked so professionally everyone involved, we really felt in control of our purchase. Darryl and Angel San Leon

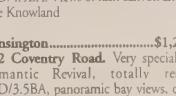
Open Sunday



Oakland Hills.....\$1,595,000
630 Gravatt Gorgeous hillside villa overlooking the Golden Gate. 4BD/3.5BA, with separate home office or in-law unit, fitness area, steam room and home entertainment center. Dee Knowland



Oakland Hills.....\$1,495,000
7133 Norfolk Drive. New listing! Jonathan Leis smashing new Contemporary 4BD/4.5BA. Views of lush canyon and Bay. Dee Knowland



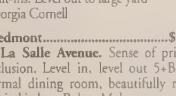
Kensington.....\$1,250,000
652 Coventry Road. Very special English Romantic Revival, totally remodeled 4BD/3.5BA, panoramic bay views, option to purchase either of two adjacent lots. Donna Costella



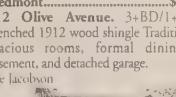
Montclair.....\$849,000
104 Capricorn Drive. Wonderful 3BD/2.5BA Contemporary with view. Close to Village. Great for entertaining. Francis Heath



Oakland Hills.....\$825,000
10 Cabert Court. New listing! Charming, beautifully updated 4BD/2.5BA home. Gourmet kitchen/family room with FP and built-ins. Level out to large yard. Georgia Cornell



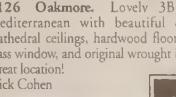
Piedmont.....\$825,000
1 La Salle Avenue. Sense of privacy and seclusion. Level in, level out 5+BD/3+BA. Formal dining room, beautifully remodeled eat-in kitchen. Robyn Mohr



Piedmont.....\$675,000
312 Olive Avenue. 3+BD/1+BA, sun drenched 1912 wood shingle Traditional with spacious rooms, formal dining room, basement, and detached garage. Lee Jacobson



Oakland.....\$599,000
4126 Oakmore. Lovely 3BD/2.5BA Mediterranean with beautiful detailing. Cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, stained glass window, and original wrought iron work. Great location! Dick Cohen



Oakland.....\$599,000
3033 Carlson Court. New listing! Panoramic Bay and SF views from this charming 2BD/2BA home. Remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors, lovely large tiered back yard. Diane McCann

PACIFIC UNION

Coming Soon

Piedmont Avenue.....\$449,000

4413 Montgomery Street
"Tillie's Cottage" is ready! 1B
sq. ft. of charm, including family
room, fireplace, and enclosed yard.

Jeffrey Himmel

Laurel.....\$495,000

38 Selkirk Street. New listing! Beautifully
remodeled and spacious 4BD/2BA home on
quiet street. Family room, plus room, deck and
spa. Skylights. Diane McCann

Michelle Vases

Oakland Hills.....\$479,000

300 Caldecott Lane #106. Ground floor model with p
hardwood floors, fireplace and a unit. Many common-use amenities.

Thomas Wurst

Parkridge Estate.....\$449,000

1320 Claire Pointe Way. New listing! Spacious 4BD/2BA home in a lovely setting. Updated kitchen, family room w/fireplace and large sunny garden with patio. Georgia Giacomelli

Glenview.....\$439,000

4180 Randolph Avenue. Warm and inviting 3BD/2BA Craftsman. Box beam ceilings, stone FP and window seat in LR, sunny family room, overlooking garden. 3-car garage. Debi Fizgerald

Helen Danaher

Piedmont.....\$449,000

Handsome brown shingled 4BD/3.5BA
overlooking the SF Bay. Art-deco
hand-painted FP, FDR, redwood
flagstone patio. Martha Holdstock

Montclair.....\$524,500

Incredibly charming with a fab
this 2BD/1BA Cottage has multiple
that capture the garden. Donna Cor

Adriana Giacomelli

Montclair.....\$532,500

Fabulous 2BD/1.5BA home in a
surrounded by impressive landscap
Lap pool, Bay view and much mor

Jeffrey Himmel

Laurel.....\$495,000

4021 Maple Avenue. Laurel
bungalow. 2-1/2 story, updated kitchen,
garage, and patio laundry. Great

Laurel Vases

North Oakland.....\$447,000

447 65th Street. Victorian with formal dining
room, separate workshop. Close to UC
Berkeley campus. Carolyn Jones

Diane Earl McCann

Redwood Heights.....\$301,000

1 Jordan Road. Wooded
cottage in wooded cul-de-sac setting,
deck, kitchen with skylight. A real
Carolyn Jones

Redwood Heights.....\$301,000

1501 Rose Avenue. New listing! Sensational
duplex honored in Met Home Magazine. Each
unit: 2BD/1BA. Huge rear garden
Carolyn Jones

Diane Earl McCann

Redwood Heights.....\$301,000

1501 Jordan Road. Wooded
cottage in wooded cul-de-sac setting,
deck, kitchen with skylight. A real
Carolyn Jones

Diane Earl McCann

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Carolyn Jones

Diane Earl McCann

Insulating system saves dollars and makes environmental sense

PRNEWSWIRE

TOLEDO, Ohio — The pollution generated by your home is emitted by more sources than just your chimney. Each year, Americans are adding millions of tons of pollutants and greenhouse gases to soar into the atmosphere because of under-insulated and poorly ventilated attics.

Unlike chimneys, the pollutants and greenhouse gases from a home with an inefficient insulating system aren't literally escaping through the roof. Instead, they are emitted by power plants supplying extra energy to fuel the home's heating and cooling systems.

"Most Americans understand that an adequately insulated home saves money and is more comfortable, but very few realize its positive impact on the environment," said Tim Grether, Technical Services Manager at Owens Corning.

Do I need more attic insulation?

According to the Department of Energy (DOE), improving your home's insulating system is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to reduce energy consumption and, in turn, the amount of pollution and greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere.

Before you climb into the attic, ask yourself the following questions. If you answer "yes" to just one

port before making a claim against the appraiser. See a competent real estate attorney about your next step.

— Jeffrey P. Widman, attorney

A: Sometimes, the garage space, easily 400 square feet, is included in the "living space" of a house. A house's value is based on many factors.

The square footage or size of the house is just one of the factors that may lead you to buy it. If the appraiser's report is reliable, you purchased a bargain. While you can take this issue to court, it could be a better use of your time and resources to count your blessings as a new owner, enjoy your new house (which has probably already appreciated) and learn to appreciate all the wonderful attributes of it rather than quibble over the loss of a small amount of estimated square footage.

— Grace Morioka, Commoncents Management

question, you should reexamine the amount of insulation in your attic, says Grether.

■ Was your home built before 1980? In a recent survey, only 20 percent of homes built before 1980 were well insulated.

■ Do you pay excessive energy bills? You can reduce your heating and cooling needs by up to 30 percent by investing just a few hundred dollars in proper insulation and weatherization products, according to the DOE.

■ Are you uncomfortably cold in the winter or hot in the summer? Adding insulation creates a more uniform temperature and increases comfort.

How much do I need?

Several factors, such as your climate, building design and the type and amount of existing insulation in place, will dictate how much insulation you will need to add to your attic.

Once you've determined the insulation type, the site can help you calculate how much you need to complete your project based on the area's dimensions. In seconds, you'll also know how many packages of insulation you need and the closest place to buy it.

A good insulating system combines the right products and instal-

lation procedures to provide optimum thermal performance, air infiltration protection and moisture control.

"Before you install the new insulation, you'll need to seal any air leaks near plumbing, air ducts and wiring with an expandable foam sealant," says Grether.

"Look for dirty spots in your existing insulation, which often indicates where air penetrates the living area."

Moisture build-up lessens the effectiveness of insulation and needs to be controlled.

Attic rafter vents assist in the constant flow of fresh air to a home's roof or ridge vents, creating a well-ventilated attic that helps reduce moisture build-up year-round.

"By making some minor improvements to your insulating system, you'll reduce your energy bills and improve the comfort of your home," says Grether, "but, more importantly, you'll help reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions and preserve the planet's natural resources for future generations."

For more energy-efficiency tips, homeowners can call the DOE at 800-DOE-3732 to order a free, 36-page "Energy Savers" booklet.

Fireplace

FROM PAGE D7

The foundation walls to support the fireplace would have to start in the basement anyway, so they wanted to know how much more it would cost to add a fireplace in the basement as well.

The cost of the basement fireplace is about \$6,000; to add the second one was only about \$700 more. To

Charles this was a no-brainer. Even though the basement wasn't going to be used as living space yet, it made sense to install the fireplace for the future.

Since one of the fireplaces would have to be offset to allow for the other one's chimney, the couple decided to have a log box built next to the firebox opening in the basement.

Upstairs in the family room, however, they wanted a different look. The room has a cathedral ceil-

ing and a large window on each side of the fireplace.

The couple decided the wall would be sheetrock, with a decorative surround and some kind of masonry hearth for the fireplace. But the manufacturer said it would cost about \$2,500. Instead, the Minicappellis are looking at wood mantles and reconsidering the hearth and surround finishes to come up with something more reasonable in cost that will still give them the look they want.



PANORAMIC VIEWS!

Mediterranean charm on 1/3 acre in the Berkeley hills! Maximum privacy with terraced gardens and pool!

\$865,000

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(510) 848-1950

Government

FROM PAGE D10

Under market value?

Two weeks ago, I visited a neighbor's home and noticed it is similar to ours. It was listed only 1,248 square feet. I measured ours and it was the same. That's about 400 square feet less than the listing said. Do I have recourse against the appraiser or the seller's agent?

Assuming your measurements are accurate and you did not count the shortage before escrow closed, you could have a claim against the seller and the seller's agent. Ask the appraiser if she made his/her own measurement or if he/she relied upon information provided by the seller or by you. The appraiser's report may contain some exclusions as to responsibility for certain information. Read the fine print in the re-

port before making a claim against the appraiser. See a competent real estate attorney about your next step.

— Jeffrey P. Widman, attorney

A: Sometimes, the garage space, easily 400 square feet, is included in the "living space" of a house. A house's value is based on many factors.

The square footage or size of the house is just one of the factors that may lead you to buy it. If the appraiser's report is reliable, you purchased a bargain. While you can take this issue to court, it could be a better use of your time and resources to count your blessings as a new owner, enjoy your new house (which has probably already appreciated) and learn to appreciate all the wonderful attributes of it rather than quibble over the loss of a small amount of estimated square footage.

— Pat Kapowich, Realty World West Valley

Virtual Real Estate answers are neither legal advice nor professional counseling. Questions and answers are edited for clarity and space. Without the full content of a given problem, answers should be read as basic information. Consult a professional for your specific real estate needs.

New Piedmont Listings

122 Dracena Avenue

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming circa 1908 Brown Shingle is located across the street from popular Dracena Park. Lovely period details throughout. Sunny kitchen and comfortable family room gracefully opens to a pretty garden. Offered at \$995,000



68 Sharon Avenue

A delightful storybook English Tudor sited on a spacious corner lot. Magnificent details, dramatic living room & dining room. The kitchen opens to wonderful garden. Offered at \$1,375,000



Anian Pettit Tunney, CRS

Office: 339.0400/217
Home: 510.653.7115

The GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Piedmont - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.



122 Dracena Avenue

New Listing \$995,000
This wonderful home, is located across from Dracena Park & offers 5BR, private garden & great kitchen w/family room. Lovely details throughout. Anian Pettit Tunney

782 Kingston Avenue

New Listing \$995,000
Beautiful expansive gardens surround this gracious 6BR home. Wonderful formal living and dining rooms. Close to shopping and transportation. Sheila Gallagher

315 Highland Ave.

New Listing \$795,000
Gracious sunny traditional 4BR/2BA up, gourmet updated eat-in kitchen, spacious living room, formal dining room and level rear garden. Karen Starr



32 Jerome Avenue

New Listing \$725,000
20's traditional on quiet street. Original woodwork & built-ins. 4BR/2BA including a large master & au-pair suite. Fabulous sunny garden. Angela Wei Grubb



86 Wildwood Avenue

New Listing \$665,000
A charming home well located for all schools and transportation. Spacious living room, formal dining room, den, 4BR/2BA and large garden. Mindy Scott

210 Sunnyside Ave.

New Listing \$595,000
Unique property w/legal 2nd unit! Level in to this completely updated 4BR/3+BA home. Lovely master suite. Sunny patio off rumpus room. Erika Celestre

1069 Harvard Road

New Listing \$575,000
A charming Craftsman w/elegant woodwork & leaded glass. Features include 3BR, level garden & updated kitchen. Close to Piedmont schools, K-12. Judy Cain

10 Arbor Drive

\$485,000
Great Piedmont home conveniently located on a wonderful street w/spacious living & formal dining room, 2BR, breakfast room & large back garden. Mavis Delacroix

Oakland & Berkeley - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.



4928 Proctor Avenue

New Price \$1,368,000
Spectacular new upper Rockridge home with Bay views, sauna & elevator. Fabulous kitchen/family room level out to lovely garden. Debra J. Dryden

5220 Old Redwood Rd.

New Listing \$1,125,000
This exquisite 5600 sq ft home offers SF Bay view, 5+BR/5.5BA (3 master suites), dramatic living room w/access to terrace, gourmet kitchen, solarium, hot tub, wine room & landscaped garden. Sherry Benninger

15 Humphrey Place

New Listing \$639,000
This Crocker Highlands architectural gem was originally designed by Carr Jones. Restored impeccably. 2+ BR/1BA. Lush private gardens. Karen Starr

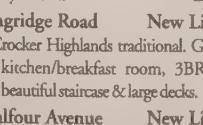
6335 Ascot Drive

New Listing \$630,000
Built for the architect, this sunny & spacious 4+BR/3BA home features a level garden entrance, peek of the Bay view & au-pair suite off rumpus room. Linda McClain



6327 Ascot Drive

\$629,000
A flower filled garden greets you as you enter this charming Piedmont Pines home in a great location w/3BR/3BA plus family room. Elizabeth Dickson



708 Longridge Road

New Listing \$625,000
Elegant Crocker Highlands traditional. Grand dining room, updated kitchen/breakfast room, 3BR/2.5BA, spacious sunroom, beautiful staircase & large decks. James Garcia

4248 Balfour Avenue

New Listing \$540,000
This lovely 3+BR prairie style home is located in Crocker Highlands. Extra office upstairs and rumpus room down plus large rear patio and garden. Nancy Lehrkind

4682 Redwood Road

New Listing \$499,000
High atop Leona Park Villas, this light filled townhouse features 3BR/2.5BA, updated kitchen, dramatic high ceilings & spacious master suite w/ panoramic views. Angela Wei Grubb

By Appointment

Piedmont with a View New Price \$1,075,000
Fabulous 5BR/4.5BA home. Bay views, large family room w/bar, pool & changing rooms. Kurt Buchholz

Heart of Piedmont

New Listing \$785,000
A treasure with 4BR, sunporch, updated kitchen, gorgeous moldings, built-ins & new landscaping. Debra Dryden

Stylish Piedmont Traditional

\$775,000
Traditional 4BR with rumpus room. Level street, close to school. Sandra Vogl

6774 Saroni Drive

New Listing \$429,000
3BR including a master suite set off this charming Montclair home. Living room w/open beamed ceiling, hardwood floors, wooden windows & fireplace. Updated kitchen, level yard & gardens. Kurt Buchholz

1332 Curtis Street, Berkeley

\$399,000
Turn of the century rowhouse w/built-ins & wainscoted dining room, family room & full bath on main level. Lower level w/3BR/1BA opens to garden. John Karnay

4328 LaCresta Ave.

New Listing \$375,000
Charming, remodeled 2BR/1BA Craftsman. Sleek eat-in kitchen w/French doors to lovely backyard. Hardwood floors. Level in. Close to transportation. Carin Caroe

143 Beauforest Drive

New Listing \$349,000
Charming 2BR/1BA retreat with the privacy and serenity of the woods. Close to Montclair Village. Ready for you to move right in! Judy Rankankan

2900 Morgan Ave. #B

New Listing \$189,000
Lincoln Heights 2BR/1BA condominium in three unit building. Living room w/Bay view. Lovely private setting with patio and gardens. Connie Rogers

Montclair English Tudor

\$925,000
5BR/3BA w/lovely Bay views. Family room opens to terraced patio and extensive gardens. Nancy Lehrkind

Montclair New Construction

\$920,000
New Craftsman style home. 4 BR/2BA + den. Partial view. Fabulous kitchen & hardwood floors. John Karnay

Crocker Highlands

New Listing \$675,000
Elegance abounds. Spacious eat-in kitchen, den, 4BR/2.5BA, set on a spacious level corner lot. James Garcia

510.339.0400

GRUBB CO. Com

www.grubbcocom

WEEKLY HOME SALES

ALAMEDA
 161 Alameda Ave. - \$310,000
 3 Channing Way - \$410,000
 32 Crown Dr. - \$454,000
 31 Fernside Blvd. A - \$390,000
 12 - 1st Ct. - \$269,000
 11 Grand St. - \$115,000
 11 Haught Ave. - \$136,000
 11 Happy Hawk Pl. - \$355,000
 11 Melon Ave. - \$103,000
 12 Magnolia Dr. - \$267,000
 12 Water Pond Rd. - \$660,000
 12 Pacific Ave. - \$465,000
 12 Phoenix Ln. - \$254,000
 12 Plover Ct. - \$311,000
 10 Shoreline Dr. 265 - \$240,000
 10 Shoreline Dr. - \$246,000
 18 Silva Ln. - \$395,000
 101 Washington St. - \$380,000

BERKELEY
 19 Cornell Ave. - \$495,000
 18 Ordway St. - \$462,000
 18 Pierce St. 1020 - \$200,000

CALIFORNIA
 16 Browning St. - \$367,000
 24 Browning St. - \$178,000
 43 Channing Way - \$180,000
 47 Dagmar Ave. - \$472,000
 25 Delaware St. - \$360,000
 15 Ellis St. - \$160,000
 21 Fairview St. - \$90,000
 21 Keeler Ave. - \$495,000
 21 Mathews St. - \$267,000
 20 Oregon St. - \$110,000
 20 Santa Rosa Ave. - \$753,000

CERRITO
 106 Cutting Blvd. - \$300,000
 105 Devonshire Dr. - \$710,000
 105 Elm St. - \$316,000
 101 King Dr. - \$373,000
 104 Mound St. - \$350,000
 101 Portola Dr. - \$520,000
 105 Yuba Ave. - \$391,000

CHABOT
 16 Buckboard Way - \$300,000
 10 Clear Water Ct. - \$19,000
 18 Coach Dr. - \$370,000
 18 Fleetwood Dr. - \$280,000
 24 Frazer Way - \$255,000
 14 Heavenly Ridge. - \$470,000
 10 La Paloma Rd. - \$190,000
 25 Olinda Rd. - \$300,000
 1 Parkridge Pl. - \$225,000
 10 San Pablo Dam Rd 22 -
 100
 20 Skyline Dr. - \$510,000

CHINATOWN
 184 61st St. - \$401,000
 Captain Dr. D 210 - \$195,000
 Commodore Dr. D 223 -
 200
 Commodore Dr. D 438 -
 200
 Commodore Dr. - \$225,000

COLTON
 Beloit Ave. - \$480,000
 Beverly Rd. - \$800,000
 Kingston Rd. - \$485,000

CORTE MADERA

23 103rd Ave. - \$148,000

21 13th Ave. - \$95,000

1722 22nd Ave. - \$89,000
 956 36th St. - \$185,000
 2301 38th Ave. - \$197,000
 2240 42nd Ave. - \$260,000
 374 49th St. - \$22,000
 1531 50th Ave. - \$110,000
 1610 55th Ave. - \$262,000
 981 55th St. - \$160,000
 1571 5th St. - \$24,000
 722 60th St. - \$19,000
 2009 64th Ave. - \$166,000
 2406 67th Ave. - \$135,000
 3324 68th Ave. - \$175,000
 952 75th Ave. - \$125,000
 1234 79th Ave. - \$130,000
 1801 89th Ave. - \$135,000
 1275 95th Ave. - \$154,000
 10644 Acalanes Dr. - \$120,000
 6811 Aitken Dr. - \$380,000
 3900 Aqua Vista St. - \$285,000
 715 Arimo Ave. - \$628,000
 986 Arlington Ave. - \$125,000
 2177 Arrowhead Dr. - \$555,000
 7608 Arthur St. - \$215,000
 8450 Aster Ave. - \$281,000
 696 Athol Ave. - \$148,000
 9024 Bancroft Ave. - \$115,000
 101 Beechwood Dr. - \$450,000
 2 Brentwood Pl. - \$138,000
 280 Caldecott Ln. 321 - \$219,000
 646 Caldwell Rd. - \$680,000
 6008 Camden St. - \$157,000
 5686 Carberry Ave. - \$370,000
 3655 Carrington St. - \$288,000
 4129 Carrington St. - \$201,000
 2832 Chapman St. - \$120,000
 233 Crestmont Dr. - \$470,000
 8801 D St. - \$121,000
 9600 D St. - \$90,000
 620 East 20th St. - \$315,000
 9700 East St. - \$155,000
 4024 Elston Ave. - \$373,000
 10034 Empire Rd. - \$124,000
 11112 Estepa Dr. - \$129,000
 1548 Fernwood Dr. - \$891,000
 6622 Glen Oaks Way - \$660,000
 4021 Greenwood Ave. - \$175,000
 2732 Havencourt Blvd. - \$250,000
 409 Hiller Dr. - \$500,000
 7171 Homewood Dr. - \$250,000
 1915 Hoover Ave. - \$575,000
 551 Jean St. 303 - \$115,000
 5511 Le Salle Ave. - \$635,000
 6711 Laird Ave. - \$150,000
 3545 Lyon Ave. - \$148,000
 6320 Majestic Ave. - \$191,000
 5273 Manila Ave. - \$305,000
 695 Mariposa Ave. 202 - \$205,000
 171 Marlow Dr. - \$231,000
 3132 MLK Jr Way - \$185,000
 5655 Masonic Ave. - \$442,000
 3800 Maybelle Ave. - \$131,000
 6521 Mokelumne Ave. - \$170,000
 199 Montecito Ave. - \$200,000
 3027 Morcom Dr. - \$265,000
 11032 Novelda Dr. - \$165,000
 850 Panoramic Pl. - \$372,000
 2005 Pleasant Valley Ave.
 \$89,000

ON THE AVERAGE

ALAMIDA

2628 School St. - \$215,000
 2736 Seminary Ave. - \$175,000
 42 Sereno Cr. - \$360,000
 5340 Shafter Ave. - \$175,000
 6869 Simon St. - \$267,000
 101 Starview Ct. - \$550,000
 7307 Sunkist Dr. - \$292,000
 1060 Sunnyside Rd. - \$625,000
 4239 Terrace St. - \$378,000
 5181 Trask St. - \$310,000
 1206 Trestle Glen Rd. - \$580,000
 4419 Tulip Ave. - \$226,000
 6476 Valley View Rd. - \$565,000
 4007 Van Mourik Ave. - \$179,000
 360 Vernon St. 305 - \$120,000
 5476 Wadean Pl. - \$170,000
 3768 Webster St. - \$265,000
 1 W. Embarcadero 159 - \$148,000
 3 W. Embarcadero 240 - \$80,000
 811 York St. 237 - \$110,000

PIEDMONT

501 Maruya Ave. - \$650,000
 90 Pacific Ave. - \$570,000
 149 St. James Dr. - \$959,000

RICHMOND

821 10th St. - \$132,000
 600 2nd St. - \$87,000
 855 36th St. - \$135,000
 750 6th St. - \$76,000
 314 Commodore Dr. - \$183,000
 2714 Esmond Ave. - \$146,000
 3014 Florida Ave. - \$80,000
 1207 Melville Sq. 212 - \$170,000
 1516 Merced St. - \$250,000
 5512 Modoc Ave. - \$157,000
 633 Ocean Ave. - \$635,000
 1300 Quarry Ct 112 - \$199,000
 1300 Quarry Ct 113 - \$258,000
 139 South 17th St. - \$130,000
 236 South 45th St. - \$160,000
 1783 Tulare St. - \$350,000
 501 Verde Ave. - \$95,000

SAN LEANDRO

1227 144th Ave. - \$267,000
 1627 148th Ave. - \$183,000
 846 Alice Ave. - \$200,000
 3837 Anza Way - \$240,000
 1400 Carpenter St. 439 -
 \$205,000
 1400 Carpenter St. - \$155,000
 1485 Dayton Ave. - \$275,000
 14900 Donald Ave. - \$236,000
 91 Estabrook St. - \$240,000
 499 Estudillo Ave. 107 - \$86,000
 2360 Fairway Dr. - \$175,000
 964 Hollyhock Dr. - \$240,000
 2247 Manchester Rd. - \$272,000
 2007 Orchard Ave. - \$210,000
 2040 Pacific Ave. - \$240,000
 14021 Seagate Dr. 230 - \$215,000
 288 Stokes Ave. - \$140,000
 2115 Strang Ave. - \$251,000
 536 Tiffany Rd. - \$210,000

ON THE AVERAGE

ALAMIDA

TOTAL SALES: 19
 LOWEST PRICE: \$103,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$660,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$311,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$339,211

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$90,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$753,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$180,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$312,000

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 7
 LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$350,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$422,857

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST PRICE: \$90,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$753,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$180,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$312,000

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$145,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$401,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$195,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$233,200

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 3
 LOWEST PRICE: \$76,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$635,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$146,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$190,765

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 19
 LOWEST PRICE: \$86,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$275,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$210,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$212,632

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 98
 LOWEST PRICE: \$80,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$891,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$197,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$260,449

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 11
 LOWEST PRICE: \$90,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$753,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$180,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$312,000

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$570,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$959,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$650,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$726,333

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 17
 LOWEST PRICE: \$76,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$635,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$146,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$190,765

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 19
 LOWEST PRICE: \$86,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$275,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$210,000
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EL CERRITO

Installing drywall? Pay attention to each step

From Popular Mechanics

AP SPECIAL FEATURES

Installing drywall, also called gypsum board, is not easy work. The board measures 4 X 8 feet, is 1/2 inch thick, weighs about 12 pounds and can be very awkward to maneuver.

That's the bad news. The good news is that it's inexpensive and makes a first-rate interior surface when properly finished.

The product comes in a variety of sizes and thicknesses. In addition to the typical size, you can usually get larger panels — in 2-foot increments up to 16 feet — on special order. The thickness ranges from one-quarter inch, mostly used for covering up old wall surfaces, to three-quarters inch, which appears mostly in commercial situations.

For consumers, the usual choices are three-eighths, one-half and five-eighths inch.

It can be used on ceilings and walls as long as the framing members are on 16-inch centers. But if you plan to apply texturing to your ceiling, three-eighths is not viable. If you need to install a firewall between your garage and living room, for example, or around your central heating system — many firewalls require five-eighths for these

a depression is created to accommodate the compound that's needed to finish the joints later.

Because the board ends don't have tapers, finishing these butt joints is harder — and usually more noticeable.

So, it's best to reduce the number of butt joints to a minimum. Working with longer panels will accomplish this. But of course, they're much heavier and much more unwieldy.

Probably the best approach for the nonprofessional is to use the standard panels and simply avoid butt joints whenever possible.

Here are some considerations before beginning the job. Mark the location of all framing members on their adjacent surfaces.

For the ceiling that means marking the side of the top plates just under the ceiling joists.

And for the walls, it means marking the floor under each stud, and marking the ceiling panels, once they're in place, to show where the top of the studs fall.

Plan to install all the panels perpendicular — not parallel — to the direction of the framing members

and start with the ceiling, not the walls.

You can use 1-and-one-quarter-inch drywall screws to attach your half-inch-panels. But 1-and-one-quarter-inch drywall nails are a suitable alternative. We prefer screws over nails because they hold better and are only marginally harder to install, especially if you are doing only one room.

If you have a variable speed drill, that's all you need to drive the screws.

But if you have a lot of work to do, renting or buying a drywall screw gun is a better idea.

These tools have adjustable nosepieces that regulate the depth that the screw can be driven.

When set properly the gun should drive a screw just below the panel surface.

The screw should compress, but not tear, the paper.

Nails should be driven to the same depth.

While using a screw gun is a nice convenience, renting a drywall lift — about \$25 a day — is almost a necessity.

You can lift up the panels by hand, but you'll need help and the

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Qualifying for a reverse mortgage

A reverse mortgage is a special type of home loan that lets a homeowner convert the equity in his or her home into cash.

The equity built up over years of home mortgage payments can be paid to the homeowner: in a lump sum, in a stream of payments, or as a supplement to Social Security or other retirement funds.

But unlike a traditional home equity loan or second mortgage, no repayment is required until the borrower no longer uses the home as their principal residence.

HUD's reverse mortgage provides

these benefits, and it is federally-insured as well.

To be eligible for a HUD reverse mortgage, HUD's Federal Housing Administration requires that you are a homeowner 62 years of age or older; have a very low outstanding mortgage balance or own your home free and clear; and that you meet with a HUD-approved counseling agency — to make sure you understand what a HUD Reverse Mortgage will mean for you.

Call 1-888-466-3487, toll free, for more information.

NEW ROCKRIDGE LISTING

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, MAY 21 1-5 P.M.



5707 Oakgrove Avenue \$595,000

Come see this wonderful remodeled Rockridge Craftsman home. This house has everything you have been looking for in a traditional home. It features an inviting front porch, gracious entry way, sunny living room with a fireplace and cozy reading nook, a formal dining room, remodeled eat-in kitchen, 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms - one with a dry heat sauna attached, a private sun deck, a laundry room, and plenty of architectural detailing like: hardwood floors, plate rail and wainscoting, box beam ceilings, period style light fixtures, pocket door, and a built-in china cabinet. Outside you will be amazed at the size of the yard, there is plenty of room for kids, friends, family, pets, and fun. The garage has been upgraded and would be perfect for many uses. Art Studio/Home Office/Play room. Retreat? There is also an attached plus room with a skylight and both have pretty soft wood floors, electrical, windows, and finished walls. This home is conveniently located in the heart of Rockridge near College Avenue Shops and Restaurants, Market Hall, BART, AC Transit, Freeways, Casual Carpooling, Great Fresh Bread, and Gallons of Coffee!

Ron Kriss 510-547-5970 ronkriss@jps.net



Take an online tour @ www.5707oakgrove.com

Decorating

FROM PAGE B14

technology at work and home is forcing the need for a change of pace in home decorating. The chief curator of the American Craft Museum in New York predicts that the world of the senses — vision, taste, smell, touch, and hearing — will become more important in decor.

There will be a renaissance of tactile interior furnishings, including rich fabrics, wood, and other highly touchable materials, according to McFadden.

The use of color will become more important because of what color can do emotionally and spiritually. And if there is one item of home furnishings that is going to be

more important than all the others, it will be lighting.

Light has the quality of being both technically based and sensually perceived and it provides the most direct emotional experience we have in our homes."

McFadden expects to see "an outpouring of creativity in the arts of the home" with more cross fertilization in art and home design because "the same person may be a designer, artist and craftsman, all in one."

Young designers coming out of school today don't limit themselves, but often are equally at home as artists, designers and craftsmen.

Coldwell Banker

Some people think just any real estate company will do. Others expect more.

PIEDMONT & OAKLAND • 510.339.4700



3814-3816 Canon Ave., Glenview \$325,000

Adorable 2-units. Charming 20's bungalow w/creekside setting. 2BD/1BA, hdwd, fresh paint upstairs, 1BD/1BA down. Light & bright! Open 2-5 p.m. Evelyn Walker

FIRST OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

43 Turtle Creek, Sequoyah Heights \$380,000

Light & Private. Spacious 3BD/2.5BA townhouse w/level yard & southern view. Good size bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, tub w/jets, quiet court. Joann Alford

6037 Ridgemont Dr., Ridgemont \$699,000

The best bay views will be yours from this elegant contemporary. Glass wrapped living areas, 4BD/3BA, gorgeous yard. A must see! Phyllis Wherry

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

4140-39th Ave., Oakland Hills \$575,000

Want it all? Level-in, bright & sunny contemp w/4+BD/4BA and sits on over 1/2 acre with a private driveway. Sweeping Bay view + level yard. Open 2-5 p.m. Nader Davarri

2464 Alida St., Lincoln Heights \$349,000

Like New. View. Updated amenities including mstr suite, hdwds, dual-pane windows. Open floor plan, ez location. 3BD/2BA. Rachel Boller

BY APPOINTMENT

Haddon Hill \$599,000

Architectural Digest. Space & elegance take on a new meaning in this stunning 9 room traditional. Beautifully landscaped grounds. Private! Fritz Hochfellner

Ridgegate \$525,000

Beautifully renovated vintage home has 3BD, 2 studies; 2 fab new baths, country kitchen & spacious DR. Located on Colby Park, a quick walk to BART on College. Marilyn Bremser

Montclair \$500,000

Huge lot. 38,000 +/- square foot lot. Views, views, views! David Eckert

Clement Heights \$450,000

Tremendous lot. Spectacular San Francisco Bay views. Approved plans for an approx. 5,000+ Sq. Ft. home in million \$ area. David Eckert

Alameda \$299,000

This beautifully maintained 2+BD Craftsman cottage has it all. Prime location, original detail, updated kitchen & bath, yard. Fritz Hochfellner

COLDWELL BANKER

PREVIEWS

EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES



13208 CAMPUS DR., RIDGEMONT \$1,250,000

Views! Views! Views! Sylvan, urban and SF Bay views. Quality throughout. Two-story marble entry, sunken living room, 5BD/5.5BA (includes 3BD suites), family room, formal dining, an eat-in kitchen, a den/study, 3-car garage. MUST SEE! Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. Becky Andersen

expect more

More Resources...

Call your local Coldwell Banker office and ask for the Cendant Mortgage Guarantee:

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- *Approved, conventional purchase loans only.

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BERKELEY HILLS RETREAT

\$375,000

JUST LISTED! Gorgeous vaulted ceilings and gleaming hardwood floors, this wonderful cottage is just steps from Tilden. 2 bedroom 1 bath, plus updated kitchen and bath. Sun-filled rooms and charming garden!

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

1010 Grayson, Berkeley \$450,000

Fabulous live/work. Owner's unit plus offices. Mamad Moktar

55 Sunset Ln., Berkeley \$375,000

Berkeley hills retreat! 2BD, 1BA. Lorri Arazi

1414 Alcatraz, Berkeley \$310,000

Lovingly restored Colonial. 2BD, 1BA. Pat Brennan

2818 Bellaire Pl., Oakland \$259,000

Mission revival charmer. 3BD, 1BA. Chris Cohn

BY APPOINTMENT

GOLDEN GATE VIEWS

FROM KENSINGTON \$885,000

Yosemite like setting in previous Kensington. Spacious rancher with remodeled kitchen. 4+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Large family room, and formal dining. Come for the view, stay for the setting!

LOVINGLY RESTORED BERKELEY HOME \$310,000

JUST LISTED! Period details and elegant built-ins!

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STRIKING OAKLAND BUNGALOW \$259,500

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CALL 748-1688 or FAX 748-1665
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ALAMEDA

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
104 Gainsborough Ct. 4 bd/2.5 ba 2-4 \$675,000			
Peter Fletcher, 510-521-1177, Heritage RE/Max			
1707 Cambridge 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$650,000			
Walt Jacobs, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4710			
11 Nottingham 4bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$625,000			
Walt Jacobs, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4710			
123 Anderson 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$599,000			
Judy Jacobs, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4711			
180 Ratto Rd. 3bd/2.5ba 2-5 \$585,000			
Donn Giffen, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4854			
123 Keil Bay 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$529,000			
Russ Grant, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4711			
108 Norwich Rd. 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$459,000			
Ringo Lai, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4848			
275 Ennismore 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$455,000			
Open Sat. & Sun. George Muhr, Kane & Associates, 510-522-1852			
1921 Lafayette 3bd/1.5ba 2-5 \$449,000			
Barbara Weil-Luthinger, 510-855-9343			
364 Victoria Bay 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$445,000			
Marilyn Pomeroy, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4845			
67 Vista Rd. 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$439,000			
Ehne Millin, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4821			
8273 Garfield 3-1/2bd/2ba 2-4 \$425,500			
Shirley Ellis, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4705			
3835 Buell St. 4-1/2bd/2ba 1-4-30 \$379,000			
Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc. Moon Team (510) 747-1620			
3008 Windsor 2bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$379,000			
Margaret Lombar, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4829			
2852 Burgner 2bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$375,000			
Maureen Shandoh, Kane & Associates, 510-521-3638			
911 Chestnut 2bd/1.5ba 2-4 \$369,500			
Fry/Cadiga, Kane & Assoc., 510-521-5475/522-4011			
1131 Court St. 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$369,000			
Open Saturday Krysny Nowak, Kane & Associates, 510-483-1676			
1131 Court St. 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$369,000			
Open Sunday RV Thomas, Kane & Associates, 510-522-2918			
314 Pacific 2bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$359,000			
Janice Payne, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4848			
2 Oak Park 2bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$359,000			
Mark Plushard, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4874			
821 Santa Clara 2-1/2bd/1ba 2-4 \$349,000			
Mark Nyman, Kane & Associates, 510-522-5827			
771 Buena Vista 4bd/2.5ba 1-4 \$349,000			
Ehne Millin, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4833			
905 Broadway 2bd/1ba 2-4 \$339,000			
Karen Kellerman, Kane & Associates, 510-522-4655			
1203 Fountain St. 2bd/1ba 2-4 \$339,000			
Stan Hammond, Wells & Bennet, 510-531-7000			
1626 Morton 2-1/2bd/2ba 2-4 \$339,000			
Sid Boring, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4816			
1132 Verdenber 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$319,000			
John Friedrich, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4704			
1617 Oak St. 2bd/1ba 2-4 \$299,000			
510-522-5322 eHomesAlameda.com			

ALBANY

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
23748 945 Hillside 2-1/2bd/2-4 \$375,000			
Prudential CA Realty, 510-287-5837			

609 Evelyn 2bd/1ba 2-4 \$345,000

RED OAK, (510) 280-2125 Kathy

ANTIOCH

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1737 Bancroft Way -bd/1ba 2-4 \$365,000			
Alice McLach, 510-277-0355, Marvin Gardens R.E.			

2810 Bellflower Dr. 3bd/2.5ba 1-4 \$249,000

Virginia Ambrosio, Kane & Associates, 510-523-5664

BERKELEY

Address & Realty Size Hours Price

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1460 Grizzly Peak Blvd. 3bd/3ba 2-4 \$865,000			
Selma Roth, Thomasson Properties (510) 848-1930 2223			

523 Spruce 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$350,000

RED OAK, (510) 280-2109

834 Mendocino 4bd/3ba 2-4 \$339,000

RED OAK, (510) 280-2138

2436 10th St. -bd/1ba 1-5 \$669,000

3 Units Lou Lovett 510-547-5970 Lawton Assoc.

1203 Keil Bay 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$529,000

Ron Lovett 510-547-5970 Lawton Assoc.

1207 Cambridge 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$650,000

Walt Jacobs, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4710

1132 Verdenber 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$319,000

John Friedrich, Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4704

1617 Oak St. 2bd/1ba 2-4 \$299,000

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1132 Verdenber 3bd/2.5ba 2-4 \$319,000

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Everything from A to Z

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Furn. & appts., bread
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Baby collection, electronics,
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Maps available. Come
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FRIDAY/SATURDAY 8-4

3101 MT DIABLO ST.

Antique car & Bentwood
chairs, old light fixtures, much
more**FRI-SAT 5/19-20, 10-5**

3090 SANTA PAULA

Antiques, furniture, books,
clothes, toys, misc.,
too much to list

+ car parts

GARAGE SALE
2893 Prospect St
Sat, Sun 9-3 PM
Furniture, clothes, toys &
miscellaneous must have

GARAGE SALE
Sat, Sun 8-2 PM
5310 Paseo Del Rio Way
Walnut dining room & e
chairs, chaise, lamps, camionette
luggage set, area rug, TV,
bikes, pictures, speakers, mirrors & misc

GARAGE SALE
Sat, Sun 9-4

2706 CLYMER CT.

Large & small items; like new
box, springs/mattress,
clothes, records, Much More

3580 HALIFAX WAY

(off Greenbriar)

SAT, MAY 20, 9-3

No Many Bins

Sports, children's household
items, & misc. items

4 Home Garage Sale

1901 Camino Estrada

Sat & Sun 9-2 PM

Antique furniture, books, tools,
household items, men's &
women's clothes, books ex-
citing finds, misc., vacuums,
lamps, lots of STUFF

Huge Garage &

Patio Sale

COLLECTION 40 YEARS

Glass, ped. cars, kitchen,
fishing equipment, lots of
miles & Sat & Sun 7-9 CASH1817 Clayton Way
(at Verna Lane)

Huge Rummage Sale

SAT, ONLY 9-4

Fair Oaks Church Parking Lot

Refig., exercise bike, bikes,
apparel, children's toys, books,
books & much more. 1925

Risdon Rd. (off Oak Grove)

HUGE SALE

House, items, gols.,

bikes, furniture, computer,

many other items

SATURDAY 8-30-32

912 MOHR LANE.

JUNK? TREASURES?

LOTS OF STUFF

FRI., SAT., SUN. 8-3

3311 EUCLID AVE.

MOVING SALE

1 DAY ONLY 10-3

SAT, SUN. MAY 20

Kitchenware, books, LPS,

furniture, computer des-

ktop, misc. All must go!

1422 1/2 10th St. (off Clayton Rd.)

TOO MUCH TO MENTION

Sat. 8-3

2394 HEMLOCK ST

MOVING SALE

2nd Sat. 8-3 PM

(Cross Street: Broadmoor)

FRI., SAT. & SUN. 9-5

Lots of old clothes, books,

bikes, boy/girls' men's

clothing, washer & drier,

refrigerator & much more

MOVING SALE

SAT. May 20 8 am

3521 Torino Wy.

Sofa, stereo, equipment, di-

nated set, bed, electric type-

writer, etc.

MOVING SALE

SAT. SUN. 9-2

Off Detrol, Loveseat, chair,

microwave, CA king water-

bed, bookshelf, dog house,

more!

MOVING SALE

SAT. & SUN. 10-2

2050 Bluerock Circle

(Off Kifer Ross Rd)

Medical exam tables, mas-

sage table, gym equipment,

dressers, beds, refrigerator,

etc.

MOVING SALE

SAT. & SUN. 10-5

2154 HURON DR

Lg. oak coffee table, Kent trall-

er, bookshelf, microwave, stack-

able washer/dryer, dresser,

clothes, misc. hshd.

MOVING SALE

1653 Walnut Heights Ln.

Thru, Fri. & Sat.

8:30-3:00 p.m.

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NEIGHBORHOOD SALE

FRI. & SAT. 8-4

LITTLE OAKS INSIDE PLAYSET

Gardens, car seats, stroller

chairs, toys, tum

3097 Santa Paula or

No early birds pls

5521 PENNSYLVANIA BLVD

SAT. SUN. 8-5

LITTLE KIDS, TOYS, CLOTHES,

electronics, CD, chimes, books,

toys, computer parts, etc

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BIG MOVING SALE

EVERYTHING MUST GO

Furn. & appts., bread

mach., Tupperware, Beanie

Baby collection, electronics,

CD, chimes, VCR, clothes,

toys, computer parts, etc

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OAKLAND: Apartment & Home Office available. lease in small pvt. bldgs. Hardwood floors, built-ins, charm. 925-943-6637

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PARCO CHE 160 square feet (925) 680-7739

PLEASANT HILL Office, prof. ofc. med./retail. Easy 920 N/S. pvt. pvt. pvt. ofc. 715-207-8810. 925-680-7739

PLEASANT HILL Office, Psychotherapy practice. 230 sq. ft. com. dwntwn. loc. Med. prof. ofc. 1200-1220. 925-680-7739. Waiting rm., full svc. kit. Sun. attrac. pvt. pvt. pvt. ofc. 715-207-8810. 925-680-7739

PLEASANTON: 1063 sf of plsh ofc. space, available. Stonebridge Mall. 925-434-0398

PLEASANTON: Ofc. suite 1,120 sf. m. Hacienda. \$1850+ expenses. (925) 820-0788

SAN RAMON: Crown Canyon Ct. 654 (sample) prkng. Full service lease. 1200-1220. 925-434-0398

SAN RAMON: Old Town. Old Town. Qn. Rd. Variety of size 1,000-1,150 sq. ft. (925) 283-3777

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Only 31% of Californians can afford a home, CAR says

LOS ANGELES - Housing affordability in California fell to 31 percent in March, down 8 percentage points from March 1999, according to the California Association of Realtors.

"The last time housing affordability was this low was in June 1992, when it was 30 percent," said C.A.R. President Richard F. Gaylord. "The median price of a home, which rose to an all-time high of \$238,870 in March, coupled with rising mortgage interest rates, is putting homeownership out of reach for many families in California."

Nationwide, affordability was 53 percent in March, down from 56 percent a year ago.

C.A.R.'s monthly housing affordability index measures the percentage of households that can afford to purchase a median-priced home in California. C.A.R. also reports housing affordability indexes for regions within the state. The index is the most fundamental measure of housing well-being in the state.

Heavy demand, affordability boost home sales nationwide

WASHINGTON — Excellent housing affordability conditions and continued strong demand by both entry-level and trade-up home buyers drove total existing-home sales to a new record in the first quarter of 2000, with 29 states posting increases from a year ago, according to the National Association of Realtors.

NAR's latest report on sales of previously owned single-family homes, condominiums and co-operatives found that total sales rose by double-digit rates in nine states in the first quarter of this year, compared to the same quarter in 1999. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia reported a decline in the resale rate in comparison with a year ago. Indiana and Michigan reported no change compared to a year ago.

The NAR survey showed that nationwide, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of existing single-family, apartment condominium and co-operative home sales totaled a record 6.04 million units in the first quarter of 2000, up 2.4 percent from the 5.89 million-unit rate in the first quarter of 1999. This was the highest annual pace since NAR started tracking the

At 12 percent, the least affordable county in the state was San Francisco, followed by 13 percent for neighboring San Mateo County and the San Francisco Bay Area's Contra Costa County.

In Southern California, San Diego County was the least affordable, registering 25 percent, followed by Orange County at 28 percent. In Los Angeles County, affordability was 37 percent and in Ventura County it was 32 percent.

With housing affordability at 72 percent, the High Desert remains the most affordable region in the state.

"In March we saw a continuing deterioration in the ability of California families to purchase a home," said Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R.'s vice president and chief economist. "For example," Young added, "the minimum income required to purchase a median-priced home in March was \$67,663, up 22.9 percent from a year ago when it was \$55,063.

"If this trend continues, it could have long-term consequences on the

If this trend continues, it could have long-term consequences on the overall economic health of the California economy.

Leslie Appleton-Young, C.A.R.'s vice president and chief economist.

overall economic health of the California economy," she said.

The California Association of Realtors (www.car.org) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 95,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate. C.A.R. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

total state resale series in 1981.

NAR President Dennis R. Cronk (denniscronk.com) said the state resale report is indicative of strong consumer confidence in the economy. "Mortgage interest rates are not the only factor that impact affordability conditions. Despite modest rises in interest rates in recent months, the other main factors which determine affordability conditions — rising income levels and stable home prices — have continued to attract buyers to all segments of the housing market," Cronk said. "In addition to first-time and move-up buyers, there are a lot of buyers out there searching for a vacation home, as well," Cronk noted.

"Recent research by NAR found that there were 377,000 single-family second-home sales in 1999, up 9.3 percent from 345,000 sales in 1997," Cronk noted. "NAR's research also found that about 6 percent of all homes sold each year are second homes — many of which are purchased as trial retirement homes," he added.

Dr. Fred Flick, vice president of NAR's economic and research division attributes the strong housing market to a combination of increased equity by consumers in both homes and stocks. "This equity coupled with the good economy in recent years, has made it possible for increasing numbers of people to achieve the goal of buying recreational property," Flick said.

"With the volatility of the stock market, some buyers may be looking to diversify their portfolio by switching some of their equity into more price stable assets such as real estate."

The strongest year-to-year increase was in Hawaii, where the first quarter resale pace rose 27.3 percent compared to the first quarter of 1999. South Dakota, which rose 18.2 percent from a year ago, ranked second. North Carolina posted the third highest year-to-year increase, up 17.7 percent from last year's first quarter rate.

The National Association of Realtors, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest professional real estate association, representing more than 750,000 members involved in all aspects of the commercial and residential real estate industries.

Long-term interest rates on the upswing

MCLEAN, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 8.52 percent, with an average cost of 1 point (1 percent of the loan amount), for the week ending May 12, up from last week's average of 8.28 percent. This time last year the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.10 percent. The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage has not been higher since the week ending March 10, 1995 when it averaged 8.62 percent.

The average for 15-year fixed-rate mortgages is 8.17 percent this week, with an average cost of 1 point, rising from last week's average of 7.94 percent.

A year ago, the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 6.71 percent. The 15-year fixed-rate mortgage has not been higher since the week ending March 10, 1995 when it averaged 8.24 percent.

The rate for 1-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages

(ARMs) averaged 6.96 percent this week, with an average cost of one point, up from last week's average of 6.90 percent. This time last year, the 1-year ARM averaged 5.71 percent. The 1-year ARM has not been higher since the week ending August 23, 1991, when it averaged 7.03 percent.

"Long-term rates jumped this week in anticipation of the Fed's actions," said Robert Van Order, chief economist for Freddie Mac. "News that inflation finally reared its ugly head has increased the perception that the Fed will raise rates by 50 basis points, instead of the 25 that had been previously expected."

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation established by Congress to support the homeownership and rental housing. Freddie Mac purchases single-family and multifamily residential mortgages and mortgage-related securities, which it finances primarily by issuing mortgage pass-through securities and debt instruments in the capital

markets. Freddie Mac has opened doors for one in six homebuyers and more than two million renters in America.

News that inflation finally reared its ugly head has increased the perception that the Fed will raise rates by 50 basis points, instead of the 25 that had been previously expected.

Robert Van Order, chief economist for Freddie Mac.

markets. Freddie Mac has opened doors for one in six homebuyers and more than two million renters in America.

So just why do I need that home inspection anyway?

According to the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) a home inspection is an objective visual examination of the physical structure and systems of a home, from the roof to the foundation.

Having a home inspected is like giving it a physical check-up. If problems or symptoms are found, the inspector may recommend further evaluation.

The standard home inspector's report will review the condition of the home's heating system, central air conditioning system (temperature permitting), interior plumbing and electrical systems; the roof, attic, and visible insulation; walls, ceilings, floors, windows and doors; the foundation, basement, along with the home's visible structure.

The purchase of a home is probably the largest single investment you will ever make.

You should learn as much as you can about the condition of the prop-

erty and the need for any major repairs before you buy, so that you can minimize unpleasant surprises and difficulties afterwards.

Of course, a home inspection also points out the positive aspects of a home, as well as the maintenance that will be necessary to keep it in good shape. After the inspection, you will have a much clearer understanding of the property you are about to purchase.

If you are already a home owner, a home inspection may be used to identify problems in the making and to learn preventive measures which might avoid costly future repairs.

If you are planning to sell your home, you may wish to have an inspection prior to placing your home on the market.

This will give you a better understanding of conditions which may be discovered by the buyer's inspector.

You should learn as much as you can about the condition of the property and the need for any repairs before you buy, so that you can minimize surprises and difficulties afterwards.

and an opportunity to make repairs that will put the house in better selling condition.

For more information and an in-depth look at home inspections, visit ASHI's Web site at www.ashi.com.

Historic awards evening

The honors going to a historian, house, map and activist are part of Richmond's series of millennium activities.

By Tom Lochner

TIMES STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — A historian, a community activist, a house and a map will be honored at the inaugural Historic Preservation Awards ceremony at the Richmond Museum of History.

The May 17 event comes as the city takes part in the federal "Millennium Community" program. Richmond was among the first nine cities, counties and towns nationwide awarded that distinction by the White House Millennium Council. There are now 500 such communities.

The awards, which organizers plan to give annually, are part of a yearlong series of millennium activities that include a multicultural festival, a mural project, a millennium map, a senior ball and the Family History Scrapbook Project now on view at City Hall.

The four award winners are:

■ The Chamber of Commerce "Honor the Past, Imagine the Future" map, which lists more than two dozen historical sites as well as parks and places where public art is displayed.

■ Rosemere House, a 1903 Queen Anne-style cottage in south Richmond. Once a family residence with a formal foyer, parlor and dining room and a garden with a fish pond, fountain and waterfall, the mustard-colored house in the Coronado neighborhood has been the subject of an ongoing restoration project by its owner, Chuck Fetter.

■ Shirley Ann Wilson Moore, author of "To Place Our Deeds — The African American Community in

Richmond, California, 1910-1963."

The book, based on more than 100 hours of taped interviews with residents, focuses on Richmond's black population during the city's transformation from a sleepy backwater to a teeming World War II shipbuilding center that made labor, industrial and military history.

■ Lucretia Edwards, a longtime activist for environmental, civil rights and preservation-related causes.

Edwards worked for the preservation of Winehaven, once arguably the world's largest winery, which fell into disrepair with the advent of Prohibition after a brief filing manufacturing non-alcoholic grape juice. It later became part of the Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot, which was closed in the mid-1990s.

Edwards, an octogenarian who lives in Point Richmond, lobbied for the inclusion of Winehaven and the East Brother Light Station in the National Register of Historic Places. She also lobbied for the creation of Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline and Point Pinole Regional Park, both in Richmond.

Lucretia Edwards Park, at the foot of Marina Way, was named in her honor. Shelby Sampson, assistant curator of the Richmond Museum of History, calls Edwards "a living treasure." She is a fount of historical information," said Sampson.

Tom Lochner covers people in West Contra Costa, Albany and Berkeley. Reach him at 510-262-2760. tlochner@cctimes.com

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1st Open for this listing! Elegant custom home in Oakland's upscale Valencia Canyon. Full southern exposure. Bn Open and bright spaces. Finishes throughout. Master s Great home office suite with ver. floorplan. 3BD/4BA
Peter Nicolopoulos 339-4444



1314 HAMPTEL \$495,000
Glenview's Finest! 4 Bedrooms 2 baths. Gracious 2 story with original architectural details. Large sunny rooms. 2 Plus rooms. Refinished hardwood, partial basement, yard/patio, garage & carport.
Nancy or Chris ext. 254

2945 BROOKDALE \$410,000
Spacious 2BD bungalow with fireplace. Formal dining & lg country kitchen plus modern 4-plex on one lot. Off-street parking and laundry room.
Holda Novelo 531-4633

1169 WELLINGTON \$339,000
1st Open on this charming craftsman bungalow. Clean and bright home. Just steps to Glenview shopping, 2BD/1BA.
Carol Robbiano ext. 292

30 CHIMNEY ROCK \$393,000
Don't miss this rare opportunity! 3BD/2.5BA townhouse with designer details, elegantly upgraded, cooks kitchen, a private & lovely patio, pool. Near hiking, parks & transportation.
Barbara Roessler ext. 264

386 49th STREET \$439,000
Distance Victorian duplex with high ceilings, windows, hardwood floors, architectural details. Roomy two plus bedroom flats. Great owner-occupied property.
Stan Hammond ext. 2944

1203 FOUNTAIN STREET \$339,000
Picture perfect traditional in Alameda's East Living room w/ fireplace. Formal dining & Splendid remodeled kitchen. 2BD, updated Deck & very private yard. 2-Car garage.
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NEIGHBORING DUPLEX & 4 PLEX \$540,000
Laurel district - Six spacious units on adjoining parcels. \$53K annual income. 10.05 GRM.
Carlo Tamburino ext. 279

DOLL HOUSE.....
This adorable split-level has a marvelous garden, a cozy fireplace, lovely hardwood and unique artistic details. Cleared pest. Move-in!

OLD TAHOE CHARMER.....

This large five bedroom, 3 bath would be great for a large family or group. It has plenty of level parking and a large sunny lot near Tahoe City and grammar schools. Also includes a guest unit and a two car garage.



NEAR MONTCLAIR LOT \$510,000
Private yet convenient location just off 2nd Street. Utilities in the street.
Peter Nicolopoulos ext. 339-4444

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SPORTS

JV

Friday, May 19, 2000

Section C

Softball Albany-Berkeley Girls Softball League results [C2]

Arts Magnes Museum exhibit showcases Jewish art, artifacts [C3]



MIKE McGREEHAN

Between the Lines

NCS swim finals should be exciting, just like in the past

Two years ago, the North Coast Section put on what likely the most exciting high school championship swimming meet in the country at Indian Valley College in Novato.

Natalie Coughlin of Carondelet set national high school records in the 200-yard individual medley and 100-yard backstroke trials, then came back the next day and improved those records in the finals.

Coughlin wasn't the only talk of the 1998 NCS meet. Her Carondelet teammate, Sylvia Bereknyei, set NCS records in both the 100 and 200 freestyle.

Others excelled at that meet, too. But Coughlin and Bereknyei were the Lennon and McCartney, Ruth and Gehrig, and Mantle and Maris of that meet. They were the Bash Sisters, if you will, leading their team to the title.

This year's meet promises to be exciting, too. For starters, it's at a brand new venue — the Soda Aquatic Center on the campus of Campolindo High School in Moraga. Those who know the tendencies of the new facility predict a fast meet.

Secondly, the meet is always one of the best in the nation.

Thirdly, the meet is not only the grand finale of the high school season, but also kicks off the summer season. Two years ago, for example, it made for a nice prelude to the U.S. National Championships in Fresno. Last year, it served as a springboard not only to the U.S. National, but to the Pan American and Pan Pacific games as well.

This year's meet is even more special with the Sydney Olympics coming up in September. This year's NCS will feature some Olympic hopefuls.

Bereknyei is now a sophomore at Stanford. But Coughlin is back for the finale of her prep career. Her high school records of 1:58.84 for the 100 and 52.86 for the 100 backstroke still stand. At the time she set those records, her mark for the 100 backstroke was just 7 hundredths of a second behind the national record for all age groups.

This time around, Coughlin has the fastest qualifying time in the 100 butterfly at 54.25, which is 9 hundredths of a second faster than the meet record set by Moreau Catholic's Clara Ho two years ago. Coughlin also has this year's top qualifying time in the 200 IM at 2:00.37, roughly 1 1/2 seconds slower than her record time.

Coughlin had a bum shoulder last year. And with the Olympic Trials coming up in August, why risk injury? But if anybody can drop time, Coughlin can. Coughlin's toughest challenge should come from Clayton Valley sophomore Laura Davis, a teammate with the Concord Terrapins Swim Team.

Some impressive names from the past still pop up when one glances at the list of NCS records. Three-time Olympian Mar Biondi still holds the meet record for the boys 50 freestyle at 20.40, a mark he set as a senior at Campolindo High in 1983.

Chances are, teams from Central Contra Costa County will dominate the meet as they usually do. Schools on this side of the Caldecott Tunnel are relatively weak in swimming and generally provide little challenge to those on the other side.

At Indian Valley College last year, however, Piedmont High School gave coach Mike Ruffner a nice send-off by winning the boys 400 freestyle relay, the last event on the schedule. Ruffner left to take a job with the Golden West Swim Club in Huntington Beach after a dozen years with the Highlanders.

This year, Erdem Kiciman of Piedmont has the second-fastest qualifying time heading into today's trials of the boys 50 freestyle (21.53).

The swimmer with the greatest chance for success from leagues on this side of the hills is Alameda High's Samantha Caetano, who trains with Coughlin and Davis with the Terrapins.

Caetano has the fastest qualifying

Vrankovich outduels Ferreira in thriller

Panthers pull out 2-0 win over Monarchs

By Scott Strain
CORRESPONDENT

OAKLAND - For six innings, Laura Ferreira of Holy Names threw the game for the ages. For seven innings, Mikka Vrankovich of St. Mary's threw the game for the century.



JOANNA JHANDE/STAFF

ST. MARY'S Liz Spivey was hit by a pitch in the top of the seventh inning, stole second base, advanced to third on a single by Chrissy Chavez and was hit home by Becky Waxman.

The two pitchers hooked up in an extraordinary game Tuesday at Laney College, an extremely rare double-no-hitter that the Panthers won 2-0 to advance into semifinals of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League playoffs.

St. Mary's (10-7) played at Alameda (15-5) on Thursday in the semifinals.

Vrankovich was awesome, coming off a one-hit, 10-strikeout 4-1 victory against De Anza on Monday in the regular season finale, and then shutting down a good Holy Names lineup. Vrankovich allowed three walks and had only two strikeouts. She let her defense do the work; the other 25 outs were recorded in the field.

Ferreira was "awesomer," striking out the first 13 batters she faced and finishing with 19 overall. She walked Becky Waxman with one out in the fifth before striking out the next two batters. All 19 strikeouts were swinging. St. Mary's never got the ball out of the infield, yet won the game.

The key to the game was that the Panthers played defense and the Monarchs didn't.

With one out in the top of the seventh, Ferreira hit Liz Spivey with an 0-2 pitch. Spivey stole second. Chrissy Chavez hit a slow ground ball to first baseman Terri Archer, who bobbled it. Spivey went to third and Chavez was safe on the error. Chavez stole second.

Ferreira then went 1-2 on Becky Waxman, the next batter, but Waxman fouled off three straight fastballs before hitting a slow ground ball to second baseman Caitlin Lyman, whose only play was to first and Chavez was safe on the error. Chavez stole second.

Spivey scored, and things got worse for Lyman. She booted Amy Brennick's

See ST. MARY'S, Page C2



JOANNA JHANDE/STAFF

ST. MARY'S Catherine Mullarkey, right, caught the third out of the final inning against Holy Names. Nicole Shandaan, in back, celebrated the win.

Panthers, Gauchos run well at league finals

St. Mary's track young and improving

By Scott Strain
CORRESPONDENT

PIEDMONT — The frightening thing about the St. Mary's track and field teams are that they can only get better.

"We're about a year away," said coach Jay Lawson about his teams. "We're young and inexperienced and a lot of these kids are being exposed to this type of competition for the first time.

"We've got some depth on both teams; we just need to mature a little."

Both teams raced away with the team scoring titles — the boys won with 213 points and the girls had 169. They finished far ahead of second-place El Cerrito (95) in the boys competition and Piedmont (76) in the girls.

The Panthers started their assault on the titles last Thursday, when Solomon Welch won the triple jump with a leap of 45-4 and Asokoli Muhammad was second in 44-9. Trestin George was third at 44-7. Welch (21-8 1/2) and George (20-11) took second and third in the long jump behind surprise winner Lionel Arnold of Richmond, who won with 21-9 1/2.

Welch also added the 110 hurdles title on Saturday, winning 15.13 seconds.

"I'm going to try them all (at NCS)" Welch said about his efforts. "We'll see what happens and how far I can go."

The three athletes — Welch, Muhammad and George — are so close in their events that practices can take on the aura of mini-meets.

"We talk a lot of mess in practice," Welch told a reporter. "It's all because we all jump so close to each other."

Other highlights included Ebon Glenn winning the high jump at 6-6; Sean Geraghty winning the 800 in 1:58.16 and the Panthers relay teams winning both the 400 (42.56) and 1,600 (3:28.71).

On the girls side, Bridget Duffy won both the 1,600 (5:12.46) and the 3,200 (11:22.99). Duffy got so far ahead so fast in the 3,200 that she beat the second-place finisher (Mary Phelps of Piedmont) by 39.25 seconds. She'll go after both titles at the Bayshore Regionals at Chabot College Saturday.

"I wanted a conservative race," Duffy said after the 1,600. "I just wanted to stay



STEVE MASLANKA

EL CERRITO runner Ashley Lodree jumps the last hurdle in the Girls 300m event at the meet at Piedmont High School. Lodree beat her De Anza opponent by a narrow margin.

El Cerrito track not to be taken lightly

By Scott Strain
CORRESPONDENT

PIEDMONT — St. Mary's may be the dominant force in Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League track and field this year, but don't count out El Cerrito.

The Gauchos boys and girls track teams turned in some sterling performances Saturday in the ACCAL finals at Piedmont High. Now we'll see if they can keep it up at the North Coast Sectional Bayshore Regionals, the finals of which will be held Saturday at Chabot College in Hayward.

The Gauchos girls finished third behind St. Mary's and Piedmont in the team scoring with 68 points. The Panthers had 169 and Piedmont had 76.

First of all, the El Cerrito girls got a big victory in the 400 relay, defeating both St. Mary's and a rising Holy Names quartet. The Gauchos' foursome of Brandi Gates, Ashlee Lodree, Darci Sanford and Monique Coleman finished first in a time of 48.04.

Coleman also won both the 100 and 200, winning in a time of 12.08 and 25.07 respectively.

"We had good handoffs today," said Gates, who later pulled an hamstring in the 100 and had to withdraw. "We were right behind Holy Names in Sacramento (at the Meet of Champions) and our handoffs weren't too god and it was in the rain. We have to focus on our goal and that is the state meet."

What threw Holy Names off was that

Coleman had usually run second leg and this time ran anchor. She blew by Cinya Burton in the last 30 meters to win the race.

Gates figures that if Katrina Keith were still running for the Gauchos, they'd have a solid shot at a state title. Keith has transferred to Berkeley. "It made me mad," Gates said. "She was my best friend and she didn't even tell me she was transferring."

In the best race of the day, Lodree was nipped at the wire in the 100 hurdles by Danielle Stokes of St. Mary's. Stokes ran 14.57 seconds and Lodree 14.58. The El Cerrito runner came back, though, to win the 300 hurdles in 44.37.

See GAUCHOS, Page C2

ALBANY-BERKELEY GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

By Lucia Hecht

GAMES THROUGH MAY 13

Micro Division

Sole Salons Sunbeams

The Tiddlywinks

It was the Sole Salons Sunbeams playing the Tiddlywinks in one of two games at Cordonics Park on Saturday. The girls' hard work over the course of the season was evident in the level of fielding, throwing, and hitting they displayed.

In the Sunbeams' half of the first, Tiddlywink Madeleine Whittle fielded a ball at third and tagged the bag to force the out.

Zoe Pollock led off the Tiddlywinks' first with a shot to Lily King at the pitcher's spot. King fielded the ball and tossed it to Ashlyn Lange at first. Pollock executed a picture-perfect slide (nobody knows where she learned it) just as Lange caught the ball. The tie went to the runner.

Turnabout was fair play in the Sunbeams' second when Pollock fielded a ball at second and tagged the base at the same instant that Annelise Finney's foot hit the bag. Tie, again, to the runner. Katie Tick scooped up a ground ball to the pitcher and threw it to Isabella Verge at first for the force out.

Near the end of the Sunbeams' half of the inning, Lotte Gallegos scored on a single by Christina Lowe. Vergas and Sarah Herman led off the Tiddlywinks' final at-bat with strong singles past third base. Hannah Cantor followed with her own single, her second of the day. At this point, the Sunbeams' "eight-girl infield" really started to clamp down.

DiCostanzo fielded a ball at pitcher and forced the runner at home. Allie Presher handled a grounder to second and forced the runner there.

And, finally, DiCostanzo made a great attempt as fielded a foul ball and threw it to Gallegos who made a great catch at first base. It was the out that wasn't.

After the game, the girls cheered each other and exchanged high fives.

Younger division

Dr. Brechner's Smilemakers 25

Red Oak Realty Sluggers 15

The bright afternoon sun in La Loma Park could not compete with the dazzling play of the Smilemakers and Sluggers, as the two teams jostled through four innings. Although the Smilemakers emerged with the win, the Sluggers displayed fine teamwork, adept fielding and all-around good hitting.

The visiting Sluggers started the action with a comebacker from Sarah Burger that Smilemakers' pitcher Maddie Cousens snapped up and threw to Rachael Masterson at first for the out.

The Sluggers continued with hits from Alana Snyder, Brenna Richie-Boland and Zoe Jansen, whose drive to right field brought in two runs. A solid shot by Haley Beckett was stopped by Smilemakers Jenna Brotsky at third for an unassisted out.

In the bottom of the first, Smilemaker Masterson's blast to left field brought in two runs and was followed by Rae Lazansky-Weast's rock-bottom double to left field.

But the Sluggers enjoyed some fine defensive plays. A throw from Sluggers pitcher Jansen to catcher Haley Beckett almost nailed the runner. Second baseman Snyder made two great throws to Marina Hunt at first, the second time making an out.

Another round of strong Sluggers hitting took place in the second inning with outfield hits by Ritchie-Boland and Emily Radcliffe. But the Smilemakers countered with some sharp fielding.

Second baseman Mary Creedon made a precise throw to first baseman Willa Keegan Rodewald for an out. Pitcher Lazansky-Weast stopped an infield grounder and tagged the runner going from third to home for another out. Then Keegan Rodewald stopped a line drive and stepped on the bag for the final out.

At bat, the Smilemakers had strong hits from Sabina Khan, Giselle Moreno and Brotsky.

Despite the continued good hitting of the Sluggers in the third, the Smilemakers turned three quick outs. The final out occurred when left fielder Lisa Gilliland stopped a batted ball by Slugger Burger and made the toss to third baseman Khan for the tag on the runner.

The Smilemakers were hot at the plate with a leadoff single by Johanna Alhorn Heyer, followed by a stand-up double by Gilliland and then a triple by Cousins. Slugger third baseman Radcliffe cut short a drive to make an unassisted out.

The final inning produced more hits and good defense all around. The game ended with both teams having displayed energy, enthusiasm and much-improved playing.

Ask Jeeves "Mad Dogs" 29

On The Beam "Hammerheads" 19

First inning power was demonstrated by Alana Pera driving in the first OTB runner. Jeeves player were able to get three of the next four batters out pitcher (Kelsey Murakami) to first base (Barbara Barnes) to stifle any rally.

Hits were had by all 10 Jeeves batters in the bottom of the first with Grace Marrow slapping a three-run double.

Second inning found the dynamite in the OTB's bats with a two-run double by Sara Muse after a string of singles by Sonya Javits, Elena Kessler, Violetta Alaiyan and

Chloe Drulis. Six runs scored before it was over.

Ten batters came to the plate again for Jeeves, with one unassisted out by OTB's Drulis at second base. Offense was again provided by Emily Cote with a double.

OTB's third inning was short with four up and three outs, two unassisted by Rosie Kirstetter at first. Another 1-3 putout ended any hope of a rally. After a leadoff single, Chanice Ubaldi smacked a zinger line drive that was caught by Alaiyan playing at second. Another couple of singles was followed by another putout by Alaiyan. Then Marrow came to the plate and drove the ball down the left-field line for a three-run triple.

The OTB bats came alive in the fourth with 10 batters hitting. Sara Muse collected two RBI to finish the at-bats. Sparkling defensive play highlighted the bottom of the fourth with Alaiyan collecting a pop fly, then stopping a hard-hit ground ball and getting the out unassisted at second.

The fifth inning saw only one out and nine singles delivered by OTB to score six runs. The magic didn't leave the Jeeves bats, and 10 singles were delivered by all 10 batters to end the game.

Middle Division

Black, Brown, Lanier &

Jackson Justice 7

Xinet Zippers 5

The Zippers and Justice met Saturday at Cordonics Field for their second time this season, and delivered a thrilling game filled with remarkable individual offensive and defensive performances from both teams.

Justice jumped out to an early lead as Eileen Cullen singled in Santia Rose in the top of the first. The Zippers struck back with two runs in the second on powerful, back to back singles by Paige Freiberger and Sarah Jelinsky, followed by an RBI single by Ryann Heid.

Great defensive plays, including Justice center fielder Judith Joy's one-handed running catch in the first, Kayla Sims' decisive throw from third to end the Zipper's third inning, and several unassisted putouts by Xinet's Freiberger at first base, kept the game close through the early innings.

The complexion of the game changed in the fourth as Justice Calie Baumgartner singled and scored on a double by Jenna Nation. Rose tripled to score Nation, and came home on a fielder's choice. Lisa Richardson then singled, stole two bases, and scored on Lacey Taylor's single. A strong throw from the Zipper's catcher Emily Hecht to Lil Woods-Kridle cut down Taylor attempting to steal third to end the Just-

ers.

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Chloe Drulis. Six runs scored before it was over.

Following two more Justice scores in the fifth inning, Xinet mounted their strongest rally of the day. Kay Ruiz smashed a single down the third-base line, advanced to third on Heidi's double, and was driven in by Woods-Kridle on a fielder's choice. Erin Anderson doubled to score Heidi, and was driven home by Samantha Cook's single. In the end, however, the Zippers were unable to sustain the rally, and fell just short of answering the big Justice fourth inning.

Acrylic Art All Stars 6

James Painting &

Decorating Generals 2

The second game between the Generals and the All Stars was marked by good play on both sides.

Frances Dyson led off the game for the Generals with a shot to center smartly fielded by the All Stars' Silvie Senauke to hold her to a single. Dominique Ortega followed with a double, but excellent defense by the All Stars left the Generals scoreless.

Pitcher Abby Cheitlin caught a fly and later flipped a ball to Nikita Goodno at first for an out. Kate Guinan-Harnett at second base shot a ball to her sister Lindsey at home for a close putout of Ortega.

In the bottom of the first inning, Felina Tambakos had an RBI bringing Christina Skonberg home. Cheitlin would then get an RBI bringing Tambakos in for the score.

Crisp fielding by Mollie Hudson and Daniela Kronenberg in the bottom of the second held the All Stars to only one further run.

In the top of the third inning, the Generals came back when Aria Betts was hit by a pitch and promptly stole two bases to be perfectly positioned for an RBI single by Lyla Weinstein. After Dyson drove in Weinstein, Ortega doubled but the comeback ended with a *déjà vu* finish as Ortega was tagged out at home.

The All Stars' led 3-2 in this tight race until the bottom of the fourth when Senauke got her second RBI of the game. Then in bottom of the fifth, Asanti Shariah tripled, nearly hitting the geese in the outfield. Guinan-Harnett brought Asanti home and came in right after on strong double by Xochitl Sosa-Campbell.

Generals catcher Malorie Knesal was an inspirational competitor, finishing the game after two injuries that required attention.

Dish 10

Vivian Lopez Mighty Molars 3

Accurate pitching and powerful hitting led the Dish to a win over the Mighty Molars at the King Middle School field.

The Dish scored quickly in the first inning. After a leadoff single by Anna Kalkanis-Ellis, Bijou Felder

and, then, a triple to home run and was tagged out in an outstanding re-

tripled to knock in the first run. The rally continued with singles by Gina Guinasso and Rose Herermalin.

The Molars were unable to strike back in the bottom of the first. Dish pitcher Guinasso made a nice catch on a pop-up, and the Molars stranded Claudia Puel at third base.

The Dish onslaught continued in the second inning. Patty Nadig singled and Paloma Wake got the RBI. Sierra Bradley and Hannah Lyman added two more hits and were knocked in when Felder doubled to center.

The Molars threatened to close the gap in the bottom of the second. Leah Fraimow-Wong and Lauren Halperin singled to start the rally.

Mary Pinto and Amanda Wilmes

had RBI and Nicole Presser smashed a triple to left. The Molar comeback attempt was thwarted when Guinasso struck out the next batter.

Tamara Land-Gilden took over the pitching duties in the third inning for the Dish, allowing no Molar hits and completing the victory.

Prudent Rockies 7

Debbie Raynor Events Catering

Shooting Stars 6

The Rockies built a 7-0 lead, but the Shooting Stars valiantly attempted a comeback in the last inning of this nail-biter. Great pitching and defense kept both teams scoreless in the first inning. The Rockies broke the game open in the second inning, scoring seven runs with singles by Joan Cannon, Sandra Firestein, Rachel Krow-Boniske, Alie Leipman and Leah Linden. Shooting Star Emma Fane singled in the second inning, but was thrown out at home plate after a courageous sliding effort. Anna Raynor, Rachel Kahn and Sophia Lewis all singled to produce a run.

The Shooting Stars exploded in the third inning with singles by Jessica Newell, Raynor, Lucy Sherman, and Phoebe White. Huge back-to-back doubles by Teresa Baranowski and White (pinch-hitting for Fane) brought the score to 7-5. Kahan powered a double in the fourth inning and Newell brought her home with a single, as the Shooting Stars threatened to tie the game.

Pitcher, Erin Olivella-Wright, preserved the Rockies win by striking out three batters to close the game.

Older Rec Division

Zip Realty 13

Nolo Press Stars

As the morning air began to cool, Nolo's strong defense could Zip's powerful hitting from the day. Zip Realty's first run, Ray, scored the first run after a single, stolen bases and a double to the pitcher. The Nolo's Madeleine Lettieri responded with a great double play.

With the bases loaded, Rachael Castro took over and struck out the last batter, Sydney McIver, with an inside play, struck out three batters and the inning ended 24-13.

Despite good defense and an inning by Sarah Dobson and Aurelia Chengers loaded the bases and a other run. Becca Nash-Terrell to quell their offense at the third out.

It was Nolo's turn to score a fantastic catch by the beaming Williams, the inning Nolo's favor.

Nolo's strong defense with a play by Cheng to first and good stops by Blanco at third. Nevertheless, a triple by Eva Mortine and a double by Ray tied the game.

Zip's pitching by Will Nolo to one run by Hilary Soto three bases to score in the fifth inning, Zip's powerful hitting trio with six singles and a triple by Sasha Maxwell. Nolo's recover and the game ended.

including: singing the national anthem, throwing out the ceremonial first pitch, assisting the grounds crew, assisting the grounds crew, and running around the field during the 1:05 p.m. game. Under 14 will have the opportunity to run the bases. Kids will be participating in other activities at the Athletics Kids Club, located at the Network Associates Coliseum on Sunday, June 4. The A's will give kids the opportunity to "run the show" by participating in a variety of activities

SPORTS BRIEFS

Albany High grad excels for Vassar rugby

Albany High School graduate Annie Izaki was the fifth-leading scorer on the Vassar College women's rugby team this season. Izaki, a junior, finished with 36 points. Izaki was a part of a team that finished with a 14-4-1 record. This spring, Izaki and her Brewster teammates toured England and defeated teams from Northampton, Cambridge and Oxford. On this side of the Atlantic Ocean, the Brewers posted additional wins this spring against Yale, George Washington, Colby and Southern Connecticut. In the fall, Vassar won the New York

Metropolitan Championships with wins against Rutgers and Columbia. Izaki is also a starter on the Vassar varsity soccer team.

Bobby Sox softball seeking teams

The Northern California Bobby Sox Fastpitch Softball Program is looking for girls fastpitch teams (ages 14-18) to play doubleheader games with other Bay Area teams this summer. The program starts June 3 and runs through July 9, with an All Star Tournament to follow. A game formation meeting for coaches will be Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m. at Redwood Heights Recreation Center, 3883 Aliso Street, Oakland. Call

Vicki Vrankovich at 339-2935 or check out the Web site at [bobbysoxsoftball.org](http://www.bobbysoxsoftball.org).

Summer soccer camps

Albany Recreation and Community Services is holding soccer training for players 7-14 and striker clinics for players 10-14 in July and August. Each of the camps is five days long, running 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Drills and instruction are geared to the level, ability and maturity of the players with special attention to every participant. For more information, call Tom Sutton or Teale Matteson at 524-2800. Contact Albany Recreation and Community Services at 524-9283.

Gino's Summer Soccer Jam, run by St. Mary's women's coach Tom Ginochino, is a camp for children 5-16. The camp is staffed by college coaches and players. The week-long

Panthers

FROM PAGE C1

focused and win the race. It was a horrible race, though — someone almost got tripped and on my last lap

a girl was crossing the track just in front of me.

"I'm looking at the mile and 2-mile at NCS and hopefully I'll make it to state in the 2-mile."

Kamaiya Warren won the discus event with a throw of 138-2.

grounder and Chavez scored the final run.

"With all those strikeouts, the defense may have been a little asleep," St. Mary's coach Casey Filsen said. "My girls didn't give up. The pressure wasn't on them - they weren't expected to win. My pitcher did a great job, we played good defense and that's what we've been preaching."

"I kept telling my players that something was going to happen in this game. There was going to be a break and we got it."

Vrankovich then put Holy Names away in the seventh. She got Ferreira on a foul pop to catcher Spivey, struck out Kelly Lyman and then got the final out when Alessandra Albrizzi hit a soft liner to second baseman Catherine Mullarkey.

"I don't think the pressure was on me so much," Vrankovich said. "(Holy Names) went to the championship game. I think they wanted to go again. This was our first year in

the playoffs. We got in and now we have a chance to go farther."

"I don't think this was the best-pitched game I've had. I think yesterday (against De Anza) was better."

A tired St. Mary's team mobbed Vrankovich after the game, but there was still a couple of more mountains to climb. Whatever happens, the team could look back at participating in one of the most remarkable games ever.

Lines

FROM PAGE C1

time for the 500 freestyle this year at 4:56.13. For comparison, Sarah Anderson holds the NCS record of 4:44.50, which she set while swimming for California High-San Ramon in 1993. The national high school record, by the way, belongs to three-time Olympian Janet Evans, who went 4:37.30 for El Dorado High-Placentia of Orange

County in 1988.

For this year, at least, the records of Evans and Anderson look safe.

Caetano also enters today's trials with the second-fastest qualifying time in the 200 freestyle at 1:52.66.

The Soda Aquatic Center and Campolindo High School are located at 300 Moraga Road in Moraga. Diving competition took place Thursday and today's trials begin at 1:30.

for teams in the Top Gun division. Each team is guaranteed at least three games. To register log on to www.hoopitup.com or call 1-888-997-PLAY.

Major League Baseball, A's to salute kids

Major League Baseball and the Oakland Athletics will honor young fans and their families at the inaugural Major League Baseball Kids Day when the A's meet the Giants at the Network Associates Coliseum on Sunday, June 4. The A's will give kids the opportunity to "run the show" by participating in other activities at the Athletics Kids Club, located at the Network Associates Coliseum on Sunday, June 4, from 1:05 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The A's will give kids the opportunity to "run the show" by participating in other activities at the Athletics Kids Club, located at the Network Associates Coliseum on Sunday, June 4, from 1:05 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Credit Courses

Algebra 18

8:30 am-12 no

June 19 - July 28

Academics

Sports

Tennis

Swimming

Ceramics

Computer Sciences

Physical / Life Sciences

Extended Care

Fine Arts

Graphic Traffic 9

Jeff Cohen Sparkies 7

Under beautiful blue skies, Graphic Traffic and Jeff Cohen's Electric Sparkies played an exciting, fast-paced game featuring excellent pitching, hitting, and fielding by both teams.

In the first inning, Graphic Traffic's Amelia Kurashige-Elliott attempted to stretch a triple into a home run and was tagged out in an outstanding re-

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Pleasant Hill

20 MINUTES TO OAKLAND

SAN FRANCISCO

Pleasant Hill

20 MINUTES TO OAKLAND

SAN FRANCISCO

Pleasant Hill

20 MINUTES TO OAKLAND

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20 MINUTES TO OAKLAND

SAN FRANCISCO

Pleasant Hill

20 MINUTES TO OAKLAND

Arts

Filmmakers strike gold at festival

Berkeley filmmakers Henry and Mary Ellen Korman captured the Gold Award for best biography at Houston's 33rd International Film and Video Festival in April for their 16mm video, "Gurdjieff in Egypt: The Origin of Esoteric Knowledge." The Biography/Autobiography category was one of the most competitive of the festival, with 53 entries.

The Houston International Festival is among the oldest in the world, and as its former first-time winners in cinematic luminaries as Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, David Lynch, John Sayles, Oliver Stone and many other prominent names in the film industry.

Produced by the Kormans, "Gurdjieff in Egypt" traces G.I. Gurdjieff's search for and discovery of the origin of esoteric knowledge, and presents the startling new geological findings that redate the Sphinx to 10,000 B.C. as well as other recent findings in Egyptology.

The documentary was shot on location in Egypt at the Giza plateau, Abu Simbel, Temple of Man, Temples of Amun, Temple of Edfu and the pyramids.

The video sells for \$29.95 and is available at bookstores or on the Web at www.gurdjieff-legacy.org.



LAZAR KRESTIN'S PAINTING "Birth of Jewish Resistance" and a Torah ark from the Paradesi synagogue in Emakulum, India, are on display at the Judah L. Magnes Museum in Berkeley.

Exhibit showcases Jewish art, artifacts

Cultural tradition and identity help shape this eclectic and diverse display

By Brady Kahn
CORRESPONDENT

A Palestinian Jewish seal dating from the seventh century BCE, a ceremonial Torah ark from a small community in India; a wedding dress from the turn of the century San Francisco; a burnt Israeli flag salvaged from last year's arson attack on a Sacramento synagogue: All this and much more are part of the Judah L. Magnes Museum's latest undertaking, "Telling Time: To Everything There Is a Season."

Organized around the seasons of the year, "Telling Time" uses the objects in the museum's collection to talk about the seasons of life and the meaning of Jewish holidays. Visitors can now see rich displays on spring and summer; more material for fall and winter goes up in November. The exhibit will run for two years.

"We were trying to show how one particular culture maintains its identity through its traditions," says Judaica curator Michal Friedlander.

EXHIBIT PREVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Telling Time: To Everything There Is a Season"
- **WHERE:** Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley
- **WHEN:** Runs through May 2002; museum hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
- **HOW MUCH:** Free
- **CALL:** 510-549-6950

You don't have to be Jewish to appreciate it," Friedlander was one of four curators and two archivists who collaborated on the exhibition.

"It is probably the biggest show we've ever done," says painting and sculpture curator and exhibit coordinator Sheila Braufman. "It's an opportunity to show people what the museum is about and what we collect."

Located in a restored mansion on a residential street in Berkeley, the Magnes Museum has been quietly but steadily building its collection since it was founded in 1962 by former director Seymour Fromer. It now

boasts the third largest collection of Jewish art and artifacts in the United States, but given the museum's limited gallery space, most of the collection is rarely seen.

"We wanted a theme where we would be able to focus on all the collections and that would be of general interest," says Braufman. "One of the main concepts is that rituals, prayers and traditions make you aware of the moment and make the moment sacred."

A display on the springtime holiday of Passover, called "Bringing the Past Into the Present," juxtaposes a variety of images and ritual objects to show how Jews throughout time have commemorated the biblical Exodus. Among the objects is a 19th-century velvet matzo cover embroidered with gold thread. It sits near a ritual Haggadah text, illustrated by Ben Shahn. Nearby is a timeless photograph of a Hassidic man making round matzos by hand.

"Telling Time" also focuses on important rites of passage, such as a 13-year-old's bar or bat mitzvah. Not everything in the exhibition is even old or biblically based. Besides traditional wedding accouterments, the show also includes a video called "June Bride," a comedy monologue

by a Jewish lesbian performance artist talking about her plans for a same-sex marriage. In it, she tells us she's nervous about breaking the wineglass, a wedding ritual conventionally performed by Jewish men.

As the curator of Judaica, the study and collection of material from Jewish culture, Friedlander was responsible for a large portion of the objects on display, including such diverse pieces as a 19th-century Torah binder and a series of Mason jars containing soil samples from the Middle East. Both form part of the spring display.

"There was a large debate about putting that in," she says, referring to the soil samples. "But for me there was nothing more essential than the Earth and the idea of protecting the Earth from generation to generation." The man who collected the samples, Walter Clay Lowdermilk, was an early soil conservationist and pioneering environmentalist who worked in the U.S. Conservation Service under Franklin D. Roosevelt. Although he was not Jewish, an Israeli school of agricultural engineering is named after him. In 1939, Lowdermilk wrote the 11th commandment.

See EXHIBIT, Page C9

CAPSULE PREVIEWS

Senior theater company serves up fresh laughs

By Meghan Powell
STAFF WRITER

"If I Knew Then" continues at 8 p.m. Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays at the Stagebridge theater in the First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison St. at 27th Street in Oakland. Tickets: \$12. Details: 510-444-4755, or online at www.stagebridge.org.

"Sin is not what it used to be, especially if you're older and wiser" is the message of this insightful new comedy, says Stagebridge, which proudly bills itself as the nation's oldest senior theater company. "If I Knew Then" is a new work from Linda Spector, who also wrote "Love, Sex, and Growing Old." For those decrying the seemingly increasing distance between the generations, Stagebridge is definitely part of the solution, not the problem. It has, its letterhead cheerfully announces, been "Uniting the generations since 1978."

"The Wake-Up Crew," continues through June 3, at La Val's Subterranean Theater, 1834 Euclid at Hearst, Berkeley. Tickets: \$5-\$10. Details: 510-464-4468.

This is a story by playwright Zay Amsbury about recent college grad James and his pals — who, he finds out, have gained superpowers. Battle on, James' pals. Incidentally, Impact Theatre notes that it "denies the slander" found at www.geocities.com/getwakeup. (Kinda makes you want to call it up, doesn't it?)

"Gaslight" is being presented by California Conservatory Theatre of San Leandro, 999 East 14th St. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, through June 4. Tickets: \$15 adults, \$13 seniors/students. Details: 510-632-8850.



AL PALTIN (l-r) Joanne Grimm and Paul Silverman appear in Linda Spector's new comedy "If I Knew Then," a Stagebridge production. The play will be performed at the First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison St. in Oakland, through Sunday, May 28. Call 510-444-4755.

1513 seniors/students. Details: 510-632-8850.

Ever feel like you're losing your mind? The problem is when you always feel like you're losing your mind.

That's the plight of Mrs. Manningham, a gentle soul whose mounting mental suffering is catalogued in the classic suspense thriller "Gaslight." See, this 19th-century lady has a hus-

band who's very concerned about her emotional state. But she also has a friend in a Scotland Yard man who may be able to shed some light on the inexplicable goings-on at Angel Street.

HOT SHEET!

■ SUZ and the Oakland Asian Cultural Center presents "Game of Life," an examination of bicultural and bilingual life, at 8 p.m. Friday, May 19, and Saturday, May 20, at 388 9th St., Oakland. Ellen Sebastian Chang directs. Tickets \$10 general, \$5 students and seniors. Call 510-208-6080.

■ Cal Performances presents the 2000 Berkeley Festival & Exhibition June 4-11 at the UC Berkeley campus. Tickets \$16-\$45. Call 510-642-9988.

EVENTS



NTR-BLTD PHO
CAL PERFORMANCES' World Stage series features Hamza El Din, the father of modern Nubian music. He will perform at Zellerbach Hall Oct. 21. Tickets \$16-\$28. Call 510-642-9988.

Marcus Bookstore — A.J. Franklin, May 19. The author discusses his book "Boys Into Men: Raising Our African American Teenage Sons."

Ishmael Reed, May 20. The author discusses his book "The Reed Reader."

Events are free and start at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. Call 510-652-2344.

Festival Of Greece 2000 — May 19-May 21. A vast array of Greek foods, pastries, music, dancing, artifacts, exhibits and cooking demonstrations.

Tickets: \$5 general free children under age 12. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday, at Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Ascension, 4700 Lincoln Ave., Oakland. Call 510-531-3400.

Transformative Arts Dialogue Nights — Ira and Coriess Lesser, 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 19. A presentation by the collaborative artists.

Free. John F. Kennedy University Arts Annex, Berkeley Business Center, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Second Floor, Berkeley. Call 510-649-0499.

The 17th annual Himalayan Fair — May 20 and May 21. A celebration of Himalayan mountain cultures featuring authentic Himalayan arts, antiques and modern crafts, live music, dance, and more.

Tickets: \$5. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Sunday at Live Oak Park, 1300 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-869-3995 or www.himalayanfair.net.

Third annual East Bay Institute for Urban Arts Benefit Celebration — 6 p.m. Saturday, May 20. Featuring interactive booths, silent art auction, food, raffle and music by the Laney College Jazz Ensemble.

Tickets: \$5 general, \$3 seniors and students. First Unitarian Church, 685 14th St., Oakland. Call 510-652-5300 ext. 131.

"Golden Gala 2000: an Evening Of Good Taste" — At 6:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20. This elegant evening begins with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres followed by a Tuscan supper from acclaimed Chef Paul Bertolli of Oliveto restaurant.

Proceeds benefit the Oakland Museum's education programs. Black Tie. Reservations required.

Tickets: \$275 to \$550. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland. Call 510-238-2917.

Champions on Ice Summer Tour 2000 — At 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20. World and Olympic champion skaters present a program titled "Simply the

See EVENTS, Page C9

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change
Call theaters for information
Compiled by CinemaSource

* Wheelchair Accessible
Showtimes for Friday, May 19.

Alameda County

Act I & II

Center St. of Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM

• The Big Kahuna (R) 7:10, 9:30

• East Is East (R) 7:00, 9:15

Albany Twin

Solano St. San Pablo Ave, Albany 843-FILM

• The Color of Paradise (PG) 7:15, 9:20

• Up at the Villa (PG-13) 7:00, 9:35

California Theaters

On Kitteridge at Shattuck, Berkeley 843-FILM

• American Beauty (R) 11:30, 4:50, 9:20

• Gladiator (R) 12:20, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00

• Hold Up (PG-13) 2:50, 7:15

• The Virgin Suicides (R) 12:40, 4:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Century 25 Union City Union Landing *

3210 Union Union Landing Road, Union City 487-9593

• 28 Days (PG-13) 10:30

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 12:20, 1:15, 1:55, 3:05, 3:45, 4:45, 5:55, 6:55, 7:40, 8:40, 9:40, 10:25

• Center Stage (PG-13) 11:25 a.m., 2:15, 3:05, 7:55, 10:35

• Dinosaur (PG) 11:20 a.m., 11:50 a.m., 12:25, 12:55, 1:20, 1:50, 2:25, 2:55, 3:20, 3:50, 4:25, 4:55, 5:20, 5:50, 6:25, 7:00, 7:30, 7:50, 8:25, 9:00, 9:20, 9:45

• Erin Brockovich (R) 12:30, 3:25, 4:45, 5:45, 10:10

• Final Destination (R) 11:35 a.m., 4:10, 9:10

• The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (PG) 12:20, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35

• Frequency (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:50, 4:40, 7:25, 10:40

• Gladiator (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15

• Hold Up (PG-13) 11:55 a.m., 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 10:20

• I Dreamed of Africa (PG-13) 11:15 a.m.

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 11:30, 4:35, 6:35, 9:25

• Road Trip (R) 12:05, 2:30, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 7:45, 9:35

• Romeo Must Die (R) 4:00, 6:30

• Rules of Engagement (R) 12:55, 3:40, 7:15, 9:50

• Screwed (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:25, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15

• Small Time Crooks (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:00, 4:20, 7:10, 9:35

• Beau Travail (NR) 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

• Where the Heart Is (PG-13) 12:30, 3:15, 6:15, 9:05

Chabot Cinema

2853 Castro Valley Blvd, Castro Valley 825-2555

• Gladiator (R) 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 10:00

Elmwood

2966 College Avenue, Berkeley 649-0530

• All About My Mother (R) 5:00

• The Cider House Rules (PG-13) 5:30

• East-West (PG-13) 6:00

• Magnolia (R) 8:00

• Titus (R) 8:15

• Topsy-Turvy (R) 8:05

Fine Arts Cinema - Berkeley *

2451 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 548-1143

• Terminal USA (NR) 7:30

• The Usual Suspects (R) 8:45

Grand Lake Theater

3200 Grand Avenue, Berkeley 452-3556

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:25

• The Big Kahuna (R) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30

• Gladiator (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 9:45

• Road Trip (R) 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:10

Jack London Cinema *

100 Washington St, Oakland 433-1320

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 11:05 a.m., 12:15, 2:00, 4:50, 7:05, 9:15

• Center Stage (PG-13) 11:10 a.m., 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05

• Dinosaur (PG) 11:00 a.m., 1:10, 1:55, 3:15, 3:45, 5:25, 5:55, 7:35, 8:00, 9:40, 10:15

• The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:10, 4:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

• Gladiator (R) 12:15, 3:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:00, 10:30

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 4:30, 7:30, 10:20

• Road Trip (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35

• Screwed (PG-13) 7:15, 10:15

Festival 9 Cinemas Hayward *

1901 Hearst Avenue, Hayward 785-8000

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 12:15, 2:15, 3:30, 5:10, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15

• Center Stage (PG-13) 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30

• Dinosaur (PG) 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 3:15, 3:45, 5:25, 5:55, 7:35, 8:00, 9:40, 10:15

• The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas (PG) 11:45 a.m., 2:10

• Gladiator (R) 12:15, 3:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:00, 10:30

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 4:30, 7:30, 10:20

• Road Trip (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30

• Screwed (PG-13) 12:10, 2:15, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35

• Naz 8 *

3940 Aragonate Way, Fremont 797-2000

• Chai Meir (R) 5:00, 9:00, 7, 11

• Dukan Diet La Jayenne (NR) 5:00

• Padma (R) 5:00, 9:00

• Kaha Ne Pahe Hai (NR) 5:00, 9:00

• Kya Kaha (NR) 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00

• Vallenara (NR) 5:00

Oaks Theater *

1875 Sophia Avenue, Berkeley 526-1836

• Center Stage (PG-13) 7:00, 9:25

• Small Time Crooks (PG) 6:00, 8:15, 10:10

Piedmont Theatre

Postman's Landing, 41st Oakland 452-3556

• East Is East (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00

• High Fidelity (R) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25

• Small Time Crooks (PG) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 10:05

• Center Stage (PG-13) 10:40 a.m., 1:35, 4:35, 7:25

• Dinosaur (PG) 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Road Trip (R) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

Regal Hacienda Crossings 20

5000 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin 560-9900

• 28 Days (PG-13) 4:55, 9:30

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 10:35 a.m., 12:20, 1:30, 3:20, 4:30, 5:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:45

• Center Stage (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 1:35, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

• Dinosaur (PG) 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Road Trip (R) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Screwed (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 12:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30

• Small Time Crooks (PG) 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Where the Heart Is (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 9:50 a.m., 12:30, 3:35, 12:35, 3:35, 3:35

Regal Hacienda Crossings IMAX

5000 Dublin Boulevard, Dublin 560-9900

• Cirque Du Soleil / Journey of Man (G) 11:00 a.m., 1:30, 4:00, 5:30, 9:00

• Michael Jordan to the MAX (NR) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

Shattuck Cinemas *

On Shattuck at Kitteridge, Berkeley 843-FILM

• Bossa Nova (R) 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:25, 9:55

• Dinosaur (PG) 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00

• Battlefield Earth (PG-13) 10:35 a.m., 12:20, 1:30, 3:20, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Love and Basketball (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Road Trip (R) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Screwed (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 12:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30

• Small Time Crooks (PG) 11:00 a.m., 1:00, 1:55, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30

• Where the Heart Is (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 9:50 a.m., 12:30, 3:35, 12:35, 3:35, 3:35

Silver Super Saver Cinemas Fremont 7*

3916 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Fremont Plaza Shopping Ctr, Fremont 559-9292

• American Beauty (R) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

• Bicentennial Man (PG) 1:30, 2:10, 7:00, 9:40

• Hanging Up (PG-13) 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:00

• Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai (R) 12:40, 3:40

• High Fidelity (R) 1:45, 2:45, 7:20, 9:05

• Human Resources (R) 11:20, 3:40, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50

• Keep the Faith (PG-13) 1:20, 3:30, 5:30, 7:45, 9:45

• The Last Seduction (R) 11:20, 3:30, 5:30, 7:45, 9:45

• Time Code (PG) 12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:15, 9:30

• Where the Heart Is (PG-13) 10:45, 7:00, 9:30

• The Virgin Suicides (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35

Silver Super Saver Cinemas Fremont 7*

3916 Paseo Padre Pkwy, Fremont Plaza Shopping Ctr, Fremont 559-9292

• American Beauty (R) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20

• Bicentennial Man (PG) 1:30, 2:10, 7:00, 9:40

• Hanging Up (PG-13) 1:10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:00

• Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai (R) 12:40, 3:40

• High Fidelity (R) 1:45, 2:45, 7:20, 9:05

• Screwed (PG-13) 2:20, 4:10, 6:30, 8:30

• The Virgin Suicides (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35

• Where the Heart Is (PG-13) 10:45, 7:00, 9:

IN BRIEF

Court cases moved from Berkeley

was taken to realign workload, in view of the recent retirement of Superior Court Judge Ron Greenberg.

The transfer of Berkeley jury trials to Oakland necessitates merging Berkeley's limited jurisdiction jury pool with that of Oakland's. To accomplish this, the Local Court Rules of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, have been amended to add jurors from the cities of Berkeley and Albany to the Oakland jury pool, which formerly consisted of jurors from Oakland, Piedmont and Emeryville. Summons

for jurors in these five cities have been revised to reflect this change.

Tien named to dot.com advisory board

Former UC Berkeley Chancellor Chang-Lin Tien has been named chairman of the DigitalVentures Asia advisory board, along with David Gardner, former president of the University of California and former president of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Pa K.W. Yip, special adviser to the chief executive of

Hong Kong, has also been named to the advisory board. DigitalVentures Asia, based in Hong Kong, is a subsidiary of San Francisco-based DigitalVentures, which deals with business-to-business Internet startups.

Free classes in disaster preparedness

The Office of Emergency Services offers a comprehensive set of training classes to help you and your family prepare for emergencies. Classes are free and open to Berkeley residents 18 or older. You'll get hands-on experience in putting on a splint, extinguishing a fire, using a fire hose, lifting a concrete block, and much more.

The classes are taught by retired firefighters who have a wealth of information to share. Here's the schedule:

- Disaster First Aid — Saturday, August 12, 9 a.m.-noon. Learn how to apply first aid techniques to assist the injured in a disaster.
- Light Search & Rescue — Saturday, July 15, 9 a.m.-noon. Learn

basic damage assessment, and search and rescue techniques

■ Fire Suppression — Saturday, August 12, 9 a.m.-noon. Learn fire chemistry and behavior, prevention, and basic suppression

All classes are held at the Fire Department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. between Eighth and Ninth streets.

Basic personal preparedness can be scheduled for groups of eight or more in the neighborhood or workplace.

To register, or for information, call 510-644-8736.

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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday: Language, Creative Writing, History & Geography, Math, Science Lab, Music & Drama, Arts & Crafts, Nature Study, Sports Clinics, Martial Arts, Computer Fun, Wheel & Water Fun, Weekly Visiting Education Programs, Poetry in Motion, Mad Science, Language Arts, Math, Science, Physical Education, Swimming, Field Trips, etc.

Curriculum: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education, Swimming, Field Trips, etc.

Wednesday: Planned activities for remaining children.

INFORMATION: REGISTRATION
(510) 724-2429 (510) 724-2977

PATTY'S PINOLE CHILD CARE

OPENING DAY!
Novus school

Opens for the first day of school on
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at 4700 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland, CA
Phone (510) 596-8996 for enrollment information
<http://members.aol.com/NovusSchool>

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237-6980

Cell: #074100949

Hercules Tiny Tots

REGISTRATION STARTS
April 13th Fall 2000 - 2001

The Hercules Tiny Tots Program provides social emotional, physical, intellectual and creative aspects of the child's development in each days program. Come join us in enriching our children in a safe, positive environment.

Pre-Kinders
(MWF) 9:00 - 12 noon
Resident \$120.
Non-Resident \$126.
Must be 4 yrs old by December 2, 2000
*A \$35. Registration Fee is needed at time of enrollment
For more information call Pat Hewitt 799-8259

Little Learner
(TTH) 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Resident \$53.
Non-Resident \$56.
*Must be 3 yrs old by December 2, 2000
*A \$35. Registration Fee is needed at time of enrollment

3 Sites Available:
• Ohlone Child Care 1616 Pheasant Dr.
• Lupine Child Care 1905 Lupine Rd.
• Hanna Ranch Child Care 2480 Refugio Valley Rd. (MWF Only)

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Richmond
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Beginning
June 19th
For info call
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YEAH I: July 22nd thru August 5th

Academic Development/Pre-College Planning • Entrepreneurship Training/Business Plan Writing
Targeting High School Fresh, Sophs/Mentoring by MBA Students • Field Trips, Guest Speakers
Venture Capital Board Presentations • Computer Lab / Training

YEAH II - for Sophomores & Juniors: Stock Market Game & The Global Economy

For Info: East Bay Outreach Project (510) 643-0923 Fax: (510) 643-1418
www.haas.berkeley.edu/ebop

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Curriculum: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, Music, Drama, Physical Education, Swimming, Field Trips, etc.

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INFORMATION: REGISTRATION
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Come join us at the first Chevys, located in Alameda. We serve the freshest food, the best margaritas, with great service and a fun atmosphere.

Garibaldi's on College

5356 College Ave., near Manila
Oakland (510) 595-4000

The menu at Garibaldi's focuses on Mediterranean-California style food, from tantalizing appetizers (sautéed asparagus with panchetta, grilled portobello mushroom) to perfectly done entrees (wood oven roasted chicken, paella inspired seafood risotto). And a rich dessert of warm chocolate pudding-cake, espresso ice cream and toasted nuts is enough to satisfy almost anyone.

First-rate wood fired pizzas and cold tapas style dishes make this a great place for sharing, and a semi-private back dining room is perfect for larger groups. Major cards accepted and wheelchair accessible.

Hunan Yuan

Restaurant
4100-11 Redwood Road,
Oakland (510) 531-1415

Come to enjoy the most exquisite Chinese Southern Cuisine (Hunan), offered exclusively by Hunan Yuan Restaurant. At Hunan Yuan, you will experience the authentic Chinese Southern cooking featured by our trained chefs. We are confident the visit will be an unforgettable experience.

Jack London Cinema

100 Washington St.,

Oakland (510) 433-1320

Enjoy Signature Theatres' 2400 seat, nine screen theatre in the heart of Jack London Square offering the best in movie entertainment. A few of the features at Jack London Cinema include Digital and THX sound, European-style rocking chair seating and 3 hours of free secured parking with validation. Come early, and treat yourself at our Critics Corner Café, to a specialty coffee, sausage, ice cream and much more.

Kimball's East

Emerybay Public Market
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The Bay Area's finest entertainment venue located in the heart of Emeryville at 5800 Shellmound St., #200.

For a complete entertainment schedule, check the website at www.kimballs.com. Kimball's fax number is (510) 658-3962.

La Creme de la Creme

5362 College Ave.,
Oakland (510) 420-8822

Chefs at La Creme De La Creme have prepared a special menu in celebrating for Easter and beginning of Spring.

The special menu features an Early Bird Prix-Fix menu of 3 courses for just \$20.00 per person. It includes soup or salad, choice of entrees: Roast spring lamb w/mint jelly or petrale sole with lemon butter sauce, vanilla ice-cream with hot chocolate or caramel sauce and a free glass of house wine.

Please make reservations early at (510) 420-8622 and enjoy this spectacular menu on our garden patio.

The Reef

1000 Embarcadero-Oakland (510) 836-2519

It's comforting to know that good

food awaits you -- along with a waterfront location overlooking a marina. At The Reef restaurant you get a combination of quality fresh fish bought daily, with the culinary expertise from the same owners for 17 years. Open Tuesday through Sunday for lunch and dinner the menu features grilled, sautéed, broiled or Cajun seafood. Salmon, swordfish, halibut, prawns and year-round lobster plus seasonal specials are prepared to your liking. Sauces include curry, champagne, and various Thai specials. The Reef Restaurant is located about one mile south of Jack London Square off 880 freeway -- look for their sign along the freeway. Free parking and a complimentary guest dock make this a good destination by land or sea.

Rockridge Steak Bistro

5301 College Ave.,
Oakland (510) 985-8388

Come visit Oakland's newest steak house, featuring beef from Niman ranch, fresh daily seafood selections and organically grown vegetables and lettuces.

Sergio's Trattoria

5299 College Ave.,
Oakland (510) 655-2869

Now celebrating its 5th year anniversary on College Avenue, this fine dining establishment will bring back memories for transplanted New Yorkers and create new ones for the Californian looking for a taste of "Little Italy." The ambience is abundant. Outdoor, cafe style dining coupled with an intimate, formal indoor seating offer you the best of both worlds while enjoying the sumptuous cuisine.

Dining is only part of what makes Sergio's such an outstanding restaurant. The waiters help customers determine which entree will please the individuals' palate. Patrons have learned to rely on the waiters' recommendations. Seafood, pasta, chicken, meat, plus daily specials are featured. Waiters provide a detailed description of the specials... astounding, considering

how vivid and detailed these descriptions can be.

Italian born owner, Sergio, feels his food is extra pleasing because "It's prepared with extra amore." Recently redecorated, Sergio's Trattoria is more inviting than ever. Dine inside, or outdoors in the heated patio. The easy listening Italian background music adds a touch of romance to the intimate setting. Live music on weekends. Reservations recommended. Banquet facilities for small groups available. Dining at Sergio's is truly an authentic Italian experience. Wheelchair accessible. Open for dinner 5 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The Cantina

4239 Park Blvd.,
Oakland (510) 482-3073

Visualize the perfect Mexican Restaurant... what would you create? Dishes are created with the freshest ingredients available, with cilantro and a variety of mild and hot peppers. An extensive collection of hot sauces from around the world allow you to add your own special spice to make your meal truly your own. Margarita's are made to tickle your taste buds. The variety is outstanding, the quality and flavor unbeatable: a house margarita, golden, original, blue, pink, sweet, fruit, and the ultimate. Sounds like we're on our way to a great Fiesta and more. Great luncheon specials, Monday thru Saturday; the hottest Happy Hour in paradise. Dine indoors or out.

Tsing Tao

1479 Solano Ave.,
Berkeley (510) 526-6223

A fixture on Solano Avenue for over twenty years, Tsing Tao offers a varied menu for lunch and dinner. Specialty orders can be prepared with 24-hour advance notice. Over 25 luncheon specials are offered from four to six dollars. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Mon. thru Thurs.; 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., Fri. & Sat.; 12:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sun.

24 HOUR LAYERED SALAD

This is a great salad for people who have a lot of time. You can make it before and just toss and eat when you're ready. The best part about this salad is that you let it set (not to exceed 24 hours) and it gets better as it gets, because the flavors have time to meld together... Bon Appetite!!

1 head of lettuce
tom into pieces
1 small cauliflower head
cut into florets
8 slices of bacon
cooked & crumbled
1 ten oz. pkg. frozen peas
thawed
2 cups cheddar cheese
shredded
3 small green onions,
chopped fine
1 cup baby shrimp



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airplane...

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Early Bird Special

Grilled Salmon \$12
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BRUNCH Sat. & Sun. 9am-2pm

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Sun-Thurs 3 to 6 pm • Fri-Sat 3 to 9 pm
Dinner includes: Soup or Salad
Dinner 3-10 pm. Children under 12
per person
Prime Rib • Angus New York Strip
Petrale Sole Dore • Calamari
Teriyaki Chicken • Chicken Marsala
Golden Fried Shrimp • Salmon
Old-Fashioned Chicken Fried
Charbroiled Teriyaki Pork Back

Early Bird Breakfast
10 Items to Choose From
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 to 10:30 am

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Szechuan Sauce • Dry
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Cold Pasta Salad

in a wimpy old salad, by adding
a more flavorful wine, or an in
house dish.

MINO/bland well
1/4 c. Olive oil

1/2 cup red wine vinegar

1/2 c. Dijon mustard

1/2 c. minced garlic, minced

1/2 c. chopped fresh basil,

oregano or other fresh herbs

salt & pepper to taste.

12-16 oz. small pasta shells
Cook to directions, pour vin-
iger over hot pasta, mix thoroughly,
salt & pepper to taste.

1/2 c. chopped, toasted
walnuts

1/2 c. chopped red pepper

1/2 c. frozen green peas

1/2 c. capers (optional)

Mix thoroughly, serve hot or cold

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When was the last time
you dined out -
ambiance, food and people
feeling like home and family?
That's how it will be when you
visit **Pasta Pelican** on Mariner
Square just behind the Webster
tube (2455 Mariner Square
Drive).

Upon entering, it seems as
though you might be walking
into your own family-style dining
room. Owner Hadi Natouf
greets you with his warm, infec-
tious smile. He shows you to a
cozy table overlooking Jack
London Square and the
Estuary.

As you browse through Italian
and American dishes on the
value-priced menu, you notice
several boats gliding down the

water. Your crisply-attired
server takes your order. Then
Chef Ignacio Guzman prepares
your meal with fresh and health-
ful ingredients. You finish with a
cup of Joe or cocktail and a
scrumptious piece of
cheesecake.

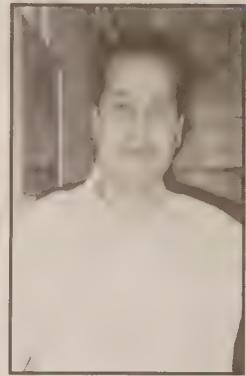
What is Hadi's recipe for
assembling an inviting dining
experience?

"It begins with a fine staff who
are like family. We try to nurture
everyone, and we keep the
atmosphere light. The emphasis
is on family - our family and
your family," Hadi commented.

Meet some of the **Pasta
Pelican** family members here.
And don't forget to visit them in
person very soon!



Ignacio Guzman, Head Chef
"You'll always have freshly-prepared,
healthful meals here."



Hadi Natouf, Owner
"I'm in the restaurant business
because I love and enjoy people!"

To make reservations or for more
information, call Hadi at 864-
7427. Open seven days a week:
lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dinner 5
to 9 p.m.

A day in the life of some "Inexperienced COOKS"

By People like You and Me!

Would you like your coffee BAKED or FRIED?

Mom came into the kitchen as I
was frantically whipping this bowl
of mud and asked "what in the
world...?"



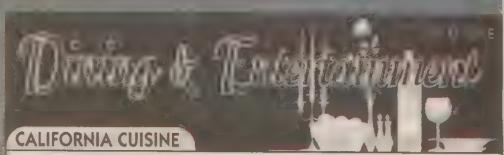
Many years ago for my husband's birthday I wanted to make him a chocolate mouse instead of the usual cake. I had never made it before but found a good recipe. I followed the directions... "add 3 tablespoons of unsweetened cocoa, six egg yolks, cup and a half of white sugar, 2 cups of whipping cream, blend well until JUST fluffy, forming stiff peaks, then SLOWLY add six tablespoons of coffee and mix until smooth"...so I went and got the coffee can and spooned six tablespoons of coffee into my mixture. I stirred and stirred and stirred and I just couldn't seem to form those smooth stiff peaks. My mother and father were there to celebrate with us.

Is that EGG on your face?

Deviled eggs are a favorite at
our house. But you have to cook
those eggs for at least 10-12 min-
utes to make sure they're well
done. I thought I had, and after
cracking the first one open I real-
ized the yolks were just a little

rare. So I thought "hey, just put
them in the microwave for JUST a
minute..." The timer went off, I
pulled them out. I left them to
cool, we all chatted in the kitchen
and kept hearing this WHISTLE.
Everyone got quiet, we all came
closer to the egg bowl, the whistle
go louder, we got closer....

BOOM!!!



CALIFORNIA CUISINE
Garibaldis
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CHINESE

Tsing Tao Restaurant
1479 Solano Avenue, Albany (510) 526-6223

Hunan Yuan Restaurant

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FRENCH

La Creme de la Creme
5362 College Avenue, Oakland (510) 420-8822

ITALIAN

Italian Colors
101 Broadway, Oakland (510) 267-0412

North Beach Pizza

1598 University Ave. @ California, Berkeley (510) 849-9800

Sergio's Trattoria www.sergiostattoria.com
5299 College Ave., Oakland (510) 655-2869

MEXICAN

Chevy's

2400 Mariner Sq., Alameda (510) 521-3768 Behind the Webster St. tube

The Cantina

www.greatmex.com

SEAFOOD

The Reef

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STEAK

Rockridge Steak Bistro

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East Bay Improv

1309 F Solano Avenue • Albany

AT THE MCNAMEU CAFE & PUB

Kimball's East

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For information on the Dining & Entertainment Guide, call

Christie Kelly at (510) 262-2799

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PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

NORTH BEACH PIZZA
PIZZA SINCE 1962

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

The Stagestrippers Academy presents a musical, "School House Rock Live! Jr.," on Saturday, May 27, 1 p.m. at John Muir Elementary School Auditorium, 2955 Claremont Ave. The performance has an all-kids cast, singing songs like "A Noun is a Person, Place or Thing," "Unpack Your Adjectives," and "The Great American Melting Pot." Tickets: \$10. Children 12-12 \$5, under 2 free. No reservations needed. Tickets are available at www.tickets.com or call 762-2279 or 415-478-2277. Tickets also sold at box office before each performance. Kids and their adult companions can explore the UC Botanical Garden with docent Lois Paul the last Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. The next dates are May 26 and June 25. Call 643-1924 to reserve your place. For the talk: \$15 for garden members, \$20 for non-members. Call 642-0849 for additional information.

Luna Kids Dance (LKD), offers dance and acting classes for children and teens ages 3-17 in a fun and supportive environment. Locations: Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave.; El Cerrito, Contra Costa Civic Theater, 951 Pomona Ave.; Oakland, Glenview Performing Arts Center, 1318 Glenview Ave. and Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd. For more information, call the LKD central office at 530-4113.

LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560.

The Ann Marin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

The College Preparatory School holds its Annual House Tour and Raffle on Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a self-guided tour. This year's theme is "What's Art Got to Do With It?" The tour features eight artful and art-filled homes of East Bay artists and collectors. There will be a talk on the new world of collecting and buying art on-line and off at 3 p.m. The speaker will be Scott Bell, educational director of the on-line art gallery [artxnet.com](http://www.artxnet.com). The Annual CPS House Tour and Raffle is the key fund-raiser for the school's scholarship fund. For safety reasons, no infants or children under 12. Tickets are \$35. Call 652-6829 or log on to www.college-prep.org for more information.

The Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers a "Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons or by appointment. Anne Levine, Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. Price: \$15 for YWCA members, \$20 for non-members. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from

the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meets Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice-Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

Work Buddies: volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic: 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychiatric Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief: 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project: the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment.

Calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week.

YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

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NOW PLAYING

PAGE C4
"THE FAITH": Three close friends from childhood meet again after they've grown up. The girl (Jenna Elfman) is a successful executive. The boys (Edward Norton and a rabbi) are both men in love with the girl. Even though for religious reasons, they should. A romantic comedy is certainly because of the sunny scenes and lighthearted dialogue, although some questions are fudged — and it's necessary to make all Jewish characters attractive to Stiller, just because they're the wrong girl? — R. Ebert. (PG-13; some sexuality and language.) 2 hours, 45 minutes. B

"LAST SEPTEMBER": In 1920, a young couple is under way in a great Anglo-Saxon house in County Cork, while the roads and the tides of the Republic rise. The characters are made obsolete by history, but not yet, and the movie's mood of hedonism does nothing to wake us. Based on a novel by Elizabeth Jane Howard with Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon, Fiona Shaw, Keeley Hawes and others. — R. Ebert. (R; some violence and language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C+

"BAND BASKETBALL": For once, a movie that is not about the Big Three is about the lives of athletes. Monique Lathan and Quincy (Omar Epps) grow up as neighbors, are both basketball players, and both return to USC. They tries to combine basketball with studies and romance, and finds it does — especially since Quincy is a more observant story than the characters grow up and the they make, and the discovery is a quietly convincing actress. — R. Ebert. (PG-13; sexuality and language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. D+

"RULES OF ENGAGEMENT": Convincing performances by Tommy Lee Jones and Samuel L. Jackson do a lot to distract from a slippery screenplay that raises issues it is not willing to deal with. They play two Marines who served in Vietnam. Jackson saved Jones' life. Now he calls on Jones to defend him in a court-martial involving the deaths of civilians in Yemen. It works as a courtroom thriller about military values, as long as you don't expect it to seriously consider those values. With Guy Pearce, Bruce Greenwood, Anne Archer, Philip Baker Hall; directed by William Friedkin. — R. Ebert. (R; scenes of war violence and language.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. C+

"SCREWED": It's no wonder this comedy starring Norm McDonald, Dave Chapelle and Danny DeVito sat on the shelf for more than a year. Why release it all? The word "crass" does not begin to describe this laughless black comedy, which surely merits a place on every critic's 10-worst list come December. DeVito plays a moron who gets involved in an attempted doggernapping, planned by a frustrated chauffeur and his best friend. Enter your own risk. — J. Hart. (PG-13; crude and sex-related humor, nudity, language, some violence and brief drug content.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. F

"TIME CODE": This latest by the boundary-stretching Mike Figgis ("Leaving Las Vegas") isn't so much a movie as an experiment in digital filmmaking, and one likely to induce headaches or nausea in the viewer. The screen is divided into fourths, each featuring a different story, improvised in one continuous take. Charismatic Salma Hayek is most successful at drawing you in amid the cinematic noise, with Jeanne Trippi and Kyle MacLachlan among her co-stars. — K. Hershenson. (R; drug use, American millionaire (Sean Penn), and makes love to a hapless refugee (Jeremy Davies). All of these threads come together in a final conversation in which scandal, while it cannot be denied, need not disrupt good manners. It's the kind of movie that makes you happy you're watching it and not in it, because you would never know how to converse with people of such style. — R. Ebert. (PG-13; thematic elements.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. B

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Sonoma County ranch serves as a sanctuary for rescued p...

Up in Sonoma you find beautiful trees, lovely gardens, quaint towns and villages, and lots of grape vines. But on a recent visit there we found something more. We found the Starr Ranch. Starr stands for Stray Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Sanctuary, which tells it all, except that it doesn't really tell it all. For one has to walk around the Starr Ranch to realize what a beautiful and fine thing it is.

Starr Ranch was started by Liz Luster and the foundation she established, the Luster Family Foundation. The purpose of the foundation is just what the name implies: to rescue, rehabilitate and find good homes for stray animals that might otherwise be mishandled, misused, and even killed when people leave them on their own. They are animals that have strayed from home and never been found, or whose family has left the area and left them behind. For any number of reasons, these domestic pets, usually used to being loved and cared for, are suddenly homeless and alone.

The strays are brought to the ranch by kindly people who find them but cannot keep them, or who are bothered by the strays wandering in their area. The Starr Ranch is careful of what animals they welcome into their fold, being mindful of the harm that could be done to the other animals by a diseased or very aggressive stray.

When we entered the comfortable ranch house, we were welcomed by Liz and some of her staff. Some of the dogs were there, too, to welcome us. We were introduced to the animals and given a

Community Folk

By Clara-Rae Genser

little of their history.

I was particularly taken by one dog, and I must tell you about Sammy. We had once had a dog with the body of a dachshund and the face of a cocker spaniel. My husband always said she was put together by a committee, as she wandered through the house on her very short legs with ears that dragged on the ground. A lovely and loving dog.

Well, the committee that put Sammy together was really split. A lively, mischievous animal, Sammie had the body of a dachshund, or very similar to it, with a startlingly big and long neck and the head of a large dog of some unknown breed. It looked as if the body should not have been able to hold the neck and head. But Sammy ran

around, offered to play, and presented himself for petting with great vivacity. When I called the ranch recently, to ask a question, I asked about Sammy and was told he had been adopted by a family that fell in love with him. I am so pleased.

But most of the dogs were friendly and eager to make friends with this group of visitors. And the staff obviously loves them all, as, the day passed I could see one or the other of them in one of the Jeeps with one of the dogs happily ensconced in the passenger seat.

But, of course, there are more than dogs there. There are three community cat rooms. Because I am so allergic to cats I could not go in, but my friends tell me the rooms are large, clean, roomy and have runs for the cats. There are cats of all kinds and colors, and the cat lovers amongst us were ecstatic about them. And one of the cat rooms is for feral cats, who

cannot relate to domestic cats.

I must add that the dogs do not run free. Although they run freely in and around the house, they are at all times in secured areas. And when they must be kept in their community room, there are runs for them where they can exercise.

The nine acres of the ranch are beautiful, with trees and grass, all as nature planned it. No manicured gardens, although there is a pool area that is lovely.

There are even burros, sent to the ranch by the people who rescue burros in Death Valley. Since burros run wild there, and are often great nuisances, they are usually killed by the people and even the government there. The burro rescue people send them wherever they find a place where they might live in peace and safety. The Starr Ranch has taken five of them.

A very small staff maintains the ranch and cares for the animals.

Three of the caretakers live on the property (and, one of them told me, are very grateful to have such a wonderful place to live and work), supplemented by two others who live in town and, sometimes, Liz, herself.

When I talked with Stephanie the other day she said the ranch presently has 30 indoor cats with various lengths of hair and color. Some of the cats, especially the kittens, and a few dogs are taken to the Farmers Market, where they try to find good families who want to adopt them.

If an animal is adopted the caretakers are always delighted, and some follow up to see that the family and the pet are happy with each other. If an animal is not adopted, he or she is kept on the ranch for the rest of his or her life — and a good life it is. Stephanie told me of one 17-year-old dog who they thought would live out his life with them. Recently an el-

derly woman saw him, adopted him, and he is perfectly happy with her.

The Starr Ranch welcome visitors and they are happy to show them around the area. No telephone number is given. Part of the beauty of the place is the love that is apparent everywhere. The staff loves the animals and what they do, and they have so much love to give.

The Starr Ranch is in Sausalito and can be reached at 707-933-9702 or by email at STARNCH@aol.com

I love discovering these little known places. I hope you will too. And I hope you will share your ideas: interesting people, events, organizations, travel. Please write to me at 555 St., #443, Albany, CA 94706, 525-4585. My email (which I look at every few days) is genser@aol.com.

THE NATURAL GROCERY COMPANY

Specials

May 17 to 29

Manager's Special



Sunridge Farms
Organic Maple Fruit & Nut Granola

reg. \$3.15/lb

\$2.39/lb

Organic Produce

Bunched Carrots	79¢/ea
Bunched Beets	89¢/ea
Red Onions	89¢/lb
Cantaloupe whole	59¢/lb

Cereal



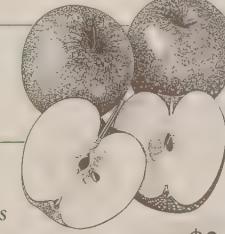
Barbara's Shredded Oats 16 oz. reg. \$3.49 \$2.69

Nature's Path • organic Corn Flakes fruit juice sweetened 10 oz reg. \$3.79 \$2.69

Kamut Krisp 11 oz. reg. \$3.79 \$2.89

Snacks

Clif Bar	
Luna Bar 4 new flavors reg. \$1.59	\$1.29
Garden of Eatin' • organic Blue Corn Chips 9 oz. reg. \$2.28	\$1.79
Terra Yukon Gold Chips 5 oz. reg. \$2.37	\$1.89



Grocery

Soy Deli • organic soybeans	
Tofu Burgers 6 oz. reg. \$2.89	\$2.19
Shelton's Turkey Franks 12 oz. reg. \$2.75	\$2.19
Solana Gold Organic Apple Sauce plain 24 oz. reg. \$2.82	\$2.29
Reed's Honey Ginger Brew 12 oz. /4 pack reg. \$3.99	\$3.19
Knudsen Spritzers 12 oz. /6 pack all flavors reg. \$3.99	\$3.59

Personal Care



Tom's of Maine Natural Toothpaste all flavors

4 oz. reg. \$3.65

\$2.39

Kiss My Face Bar Soaps

8 oz. reg. \$2.99

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Kala Art Institute — "High Touch/High Tech: Crossing The Divide," closes Friday, May 26. An exhibit of juried and invited artists.

Free admission. Tuesday-Friday, noon-5 p.m. Workshop Media Center Gallery, 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-549-2977.

New Pieces Gallery — "Rock, Stone, Masonry and Mosaics," through Thursday, June 1. An exhibit of quilts by Charlotte Patera.

"The Rhapsody of Dolls," through June 1. An exhibit of dolls by Patti Medaria Culea.

Free admission. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-0527-6779.

Traywick Gallery — "nudge," through Sunday, June 18. An exhibit of new work by Terry Hoff.

Free admission. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1316 10th St., Berkeley. Call 510-527-1214.

Holt Planetarium — Programs are recommended for ages 8 and up; children under age 6 will not be admitted.

"Colors from Space," through June 30. The planetarium becomes a laboratory for experimenting with all the colors of the rainbow and beyond. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

"Constellations Tonight," ongoing. Using a simple star map, learn to identify the most prominent constellations for the season in the planetarium sky. Saturday and Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

\$2 plus museum admission of \$6 general; \$4 students, seniors and children ages 7 to 18; children under the age of 6 are not admitted. Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Centennial Drive, Berkeley, (510) 642-5132 or www.lhs.berkeley.edu

Tilden Regional Park — "Hunt for Homes," May 20, 1 p.m. Hike through the forested hills in search for animals' homes. Bring water and binoculars.

"On The Bluebird Trail," May 21, 11 a.m. Climb over Wildcat Peak to check for nesting birds. Distance: 3.5 miles. Elevation gain: 750 feet. Bring lunch, liquids, binoculars. For age 9 and older.

BOTANIC GARDEN TOURS — Guided docent tours of the gardens. Call ahead for times and to confirm tour is on for the day: most Saturdays and Sundays, 2 p.m. Free. (510) 841-8732.

Free unless noted otherwise. Take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. (510) 525-2233.

Auto Plus

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

May 19, 2000

Section D

State of the Art Volvo creates a greenhouse for auto safety [D2]

Test Drive Get behind the wheel of the 2001 Infiniti QX4 [D3]

Classified Classified ads inside this section [D7]

Drive, She Said



By Denise McCluggage

It is said,
`Things Are
Nifty on
Highway 50'

So it rhymes, but it's hardly "Get Your Kicks on Route 66." Route 66, dubbed "The Mother Road" by John Steinbeck was the highway on which the Joads and the other sad dispossessed of the Dust Bowl aimed westward in their mattress-laden Model T Fords drawn by the promise of California.

Route 66 inspired Bobby Troup's popular song, which in turn prompted a 1960s TV show with two guys in a Corvette. Route 66 has devoted Web sites in many languages, draws pilgrimages of foreign visitors every summer and is the subject of a souvenir mill of

See DRIVE, Page D2

Restored LaSalle would make sisters proud



MOTOR MATTERS

Auto Classics

By Vern Parker

Six months before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, the Gilbert sisters of Fresno, Calif., planned their own attack on the George Harm Motor Car Co.

JUST BEFORE PEARL HARBOR the Gilbert sisters drove home in their 1940 Marquette gray Model 52 LaSalle.

The sisters lived together on Terrace Avenue, where they learned they could live in nicer accommodations by pooling their resources. Clara was a librarian and Sophie a school teacher. They wanted a car, and with their combined income, they

could afford an automobile a cut above the ordinary. The George Harm dealership sold Cadillac and LaSalle automobiles.

On June 13, 1940, the Gilbert sisters executed their attack. From nine models

offered by LaSalle in 1940, they selected a gorgeous special four-door touring sedan and signed a sales contract agreeing to pay \$1,854. They paid \$704 as a

See LASALLE, Page D2

See DRIVE, Page D2

PRE-MEMORIAL DAY TRUCK LOAD SALE



\$0 Down
Payment
1.9% A.P.R.
Financing Available*

WE HAVE RECEIVED XTRA TRUCKLOADS OF CRYSLER, PLYMOUTH & JEEPS AND WE HAVE NO ROOM! COME IN AND MAKE THE DEAL YOU WANT THIS WEEKEND!

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Plymouth Neon

\$10,999



Automatic & much more.

New 1999
Plymouth Breeze

SAVE \$3150 off MSRP



Air Conditioning, Power Windows, Locks & More

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Chrysler Sebring Conv.

\$22,999



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Chrysler 300M

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Chrysler Sebring Conv.

SAVE \$4310

Your price
\$22,995



3.2L ENG., V-6, 200HP, Fully Loaded

New 2000
Cherokee 4x4s

Starting at \$25,995*



Auto, Air Conditioning, Conv. Group, 4x4,
& much more. *After \$400 College Grad Rebate

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Volvo has created a greenhouse for auto safety



MOTOR MATTERS

VOLVO'S NEW CENTER will not only serve to provide Volvo with a stream of new safety innovations, but also the entire Ford Motor Co., which now owns Volvo, Lincoln, Mercury, Jaguar, Land Rover and Aston Martin.

Down the Road

By Herb Shuldin

Volvo's new \$81 million auto safety center is intended to preserve the Swedish car maker's well deserved reputation for safety innovation.

The new center will not only serve to provide Volvo with a stream of new safety innovations, but also the entire Ford Motor Co., which now owns Volvo, Lincoln, Mercury, Jaguar, Land Rover and Aston Martin.

Ford's president, Jacques Nasser, is so impressed by the Volvo facility that he has dubbed it "Ford's center of excellence for auto safety."

over its entirety. Of course, therein lies the appeal of Route 66: searching out the old road and the old, old road and the even older road, as well as photographing the empty-eyed motels and other crumbling buildings that once offered "pop on ice" and gasoline from glass cylinders to travelers on narrow bands of concrete.

Books on the neon art of old roadside signs along Route 66 grace coffee tables, a tribute to a highway pushed into history by ruthless interstates.

Simply put: Route 66 appeals to the archeologist and historian in us all.

It's fun to scout for marooned bridges and old pieces of pavement that were the original Route 66 or to follow the old route, where possible, from Seligman to Kingman, Ariz., or across the Mojave in California. (But

it gets too commercial when arguments flare between so-called experts on the authenticity of old Route 66 highway signs offered to Internet bidders.)

U.S. 50 still has its amateur standing. So far, only one website I know of is devoted to it: www.route50.com, which is run by Wulf Berg in a loving-hands-at-home manner. His book, *U.S. 50 Coast to Coast* (\$24.95, ppd from W. Berg Press, P.O. Box 6060, Suffolk, VA 23433) brings the score in highway books to U.S. 50, one; Route 66, dozens.

U.S. 50 still plugs along open to all, appreciated by many, but truly cherished by few. In its nation-dissecting plunge across the country's mid-section, it is utilitarian as well as scenically blessed.

U.S. 50 strings together a bracelet of some of the country's greatest and most varied charms: Chesapeake

Bay, Virginia horse country, West Virginia mountains, farmland, Tall Grass Prairie, Dodge City, the magnificence of the Rockies, the moon-scape desolation of Utah and Nevada, the giant gulf of Lake Tahoe, and the gold country of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Thus it runs, sun-wise, from the lapping edge of the Atlantic until Sacramento swallows it unceremoniously in eight busy lanes of I-80.

Indeed, in its quiet soldiering, there's something rather step-sisterly and plucky about U.S. 50. It remains two-lanes through much of its cross-country trek, multi-laned occasionally and when it shares miles with interstates.

It links small towns with small cities, hitting the big time with the likes of Washington, D.C.; Cincinnati; St. Louis; Kansas City. It's a school zone and stoplight sort of

highway: antique shops, main streets, and hometown cafes.

Another thing, U.S. 50 has to be the choice of the sporting driver. I was reminded of this recently driving to Santa Fe from Colorado Springs.

Eschewing I-25, I struck south and westward toward Canon City and Salida on U.S. 50.

Here the highway matched, bend for bend, the rippling daze of the Arkansas River.

I remembered, too, that U.S. 50 leaving Nevada for California was more interesting than I-80 over Donner.

And then there's West Virginia.

True, Route 66 (now Historic Route 66) has the Oatman Grade between Kingman, Ariz., and Needles, Calif.

We're lucky. Choices make us rich.

Drive

FROM PAGE D1

massive proportions. And yet, truth be told, if you were advising foreign visitors keen to sample the essence of the U.S. on just one highway, you would have to choose U.S. 50.

For one thing, U.S. 50 goes from coast to coast (well, almost) while Route 66 starts in Chicago and ends in Santa Monica. Comparative lengths: U.S. 50, 3,073 miles; Route 66, 2,248 miles, when it existed.

And U.S. 50 includes the nation's capital. But perhaps the greatest difference between U.S. 50 and Route 66 is that U.S. 50 has an active existence over almost its entirety, and Route 66 has all but disappeared

Because of the new bustle-back styling, the capacity of the trunk was quite spacious. Typical of upper-end General Motors cars the spare tire was mounted flat on the floor under a horizontal shelf. The gracefully-curved trunk lid was raised on a pair of exposed chrome-plated hinges.

The car was also repainted in the original Marquette gray, and the seats were correctly reupholstered. The rest of the interior was a testament to the care given by Clara and Sophie.

Tiring of the LaSalle after 17 years, the second owner took it to an automobile swap meet in the San Joaquin Valley in January, 1999 and offered it for sale. Jim Moloney, a Santa Barbara resident saw the LaSalle there, but the owner was always absent whenever he stopped by. "It's kind of a clean looking old car," Moloney thought although he really wasn't looking to buy a car. What arrested his attention was the traditional narrow, delicate LaSalle grille between the six vertical chrome-outlined slots on each side of the grille.

Moloney went back one last time, but the car was gone. Fortunately, a neighboring vendor provided a name and telephone number. After the two men talked via telephone, the owner said he would bring the car to Pismo Beach on Father's Day weekend. Moloney hopped a bus in Santa Barbara bound for Pismo Beach. There he finally met the seller and made a deal.

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to check the crash worthiness of vehicles and what the impact loads are on various parts of the human body.

Volvo will use what it claims is the world's most advanced crash simulator to test safety systems.

Envision the simulator as a giant cannon from which Volvo engineers fire reinforced car bodies into each other or into barriers. The reinforced car body has everything removed from the interior.

Then engineers install crash dummies and protective systems to test what virtually any kind of test can have on the human body.

Engineers create real impacts by accelerating cars backwards from a standing start. The impact creates the same effect on the occupants of the vehicle as though it crashed into another car or an obstacle, like a wall or a tree.

To create such realistic crashes, a huge amount of energy must be stored and then unleashed in a tenth of a second. Volvo engineers use eight pressurized energy accumulators.

Then a piston is released to propel a sled that holds the reinforced car body backwards.

The new simulator can even mimic a type of pitch that happens to cars in real accidents. In such accidents, a car tilts forward and at the same time rotates and moves vertically.

Volvo engineers perform the realistic simulation by using hydraulics that pull down the front end of the sled carrying the car at the moment of impact. This action simulates what happens in an actual frontal impact.

In addition, the Swedish engineers deploy an intrusion actuator system that uses 10 hydraulic pistons, programmed to intrude into the passenger compartment through the bulkhead which closes off the engine compartment.

The actuator allows engineers to move the result of what happens when the bulkhead is moved backward into the passenger compartment.

These tests happen so rapidly that they cannot be observed by the human eye.

High speed video cameras are used to capture the event. The video is then slowed in slow motion so that even an "accident" can be observed.

In addition, the forces on the car can be measured because of the sensors embedded in the dummies.

While crunching metal will be a major part of the Volvo center's research, most of the work will be on a new NEC supercomputer.

The supercomputer will allow to simulate six crashes daily for a year. Each crash takes about 24 hours to analyze.

Every new model being developed by Volvo will undergo several hundred crash tests.

"We want to ensure that our new models are closer to reality," says Hans G. Carlsson, head of development at Volvo Car Corp.

The simulated crashes offer a benefit: new model development can be shortened by as much as 10 months, saving substantial money will be saved.

In the past, Volvo safety engineers created such innovations as the three-point seatbelt, now standard in every side airbag that is slowly being installed in all cars.

The safety center may help in the learning process, enabling engineers to pace for automotive safety.



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and exactly 59 years after Clara and Sophie first bought the car, Moloney became the third owner.

Since getting the LaSalle home, Moloney has had to replace the banjo-spoked steering wheel recast and is about to take measures to get his instrumentation working properly.

Most importantly, Moloney has mounted on his LaSalle the same, albeit restored, 1940 license plates his parents had on the family Buick so many years ago.

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LaSalle

FROM PAGE D1

ing to pay \$1,854. They paid \$704 as a down payment and drove home in their beautiful Marquette gray model 52 LaSalle. If nothing else, the sisters were prompt. Records show the \$1,150 remainder was paid the next month.

The luxurious LaSalle proved to be flawless. However, about three months later, on Sept. 18, 1940, the Misses Gilbert received a letter from General Motors explaining that no more LaSalles were going to be built, although Cadillac dealers would continue to service their LaSalle.

Another three months passed and another bombshell dropped — literally. Pearl Harbor was attacked, and with World War II came gas rationing. The sisters had an "A" rationing stamp which didn't amount to much. The ever-practical sisters put the car on blocks for 50 weeks a year, walking to their respective jobs and saving their gasoline stamps.

When the Gilberts took a two-week summer vacation, they had accumulated enough gasoline to drive their LaSalle to Pismo Beach. The 130-horsepower, 322-cubic-inch V8 had to work to move the 3,900-pound car between Fresno and Pismo Beach and back again.

That is how the Gilbert sisters' LaSalle spent the war years. Thereafter, they must have made up for lost time — running the mileage off the odometer to get their money's worth.

A man in the Fresno area became the second owner in 1982. The once-mighty V8 had a cracked cylinder head, which was replaced when he rebuilt the engine. In the following years, he had the three-speed manual transmission and front suspension rebuilt.

Only 10,250 of the handsome bustle-back special touring sedans were manufactured, with this one slowly being restored. Attesting to the quality level of the car, the sill plates proudly proclaimed "Body by Fisher — Interior by Fleetwood." Laura and Sophie must have enjoyed the plush ride provided by the 123-inch wheelbase rolling on 7.00x16-inch tires mounted on red wheels, each one crowned with an optional full-wheel cover.

A first on the last LaSalle was a unique feature: All four doors were hinged at the front. The rear doors were notched to clear the rear fenders, which were protected by rubber gravel guards. The interior of each of the four doors displayed four chrome handles: door lock, door handle, vent crank, and window crank. Rear seat passengers could pull down a center armrest.

Because of the new bustle-back styling, the capacity of the trunk was quite spacious. Typical of upper-end General Motors cars the spare tire was mounted flat on the floor under a horizontal shelf. The gracefully-curved trunk lid was raised on a pair of exposed chrome-plated hinges.

The car was also repainted in the original Marquette gray, and the seats were correctly reupholstered. The rest of the interior was a testament to the care given by Clara and Sophie.

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2001 Infiniti QX4 offers increased luxury



MOTOR MATTERS

LOOKING AT THE 2001 Infiniti QX4 reveals strong, crisp, bold lines, giving it a powerful appearance. Its looks are not deceiving; the version is much more powerful than last year's model.

On Wheels

By Tom Keane

Those who thought the 2000 Infiniti QX4 was just one could want in a luxury sport utility, think again. The 2001 QX4 runs circles around it.

All that's a slight exaggeration, but the re-

vised model is improved in ways I never thought possible. Just looking at this SUV reveals crisp, bold lines, giving it a powerful appearance. Its looks are not deceiving; the new version is much more powerful than last year's.

This model has new body side cladding, integrated rear bumper, rear light, rear-facing exhaust pipes, and the new roof rack, making me think this 4WD would take on the great outdoors.

The large 16-inch (or optional 17-inch) aluminum alloy wheels leave no doubt that this SUV can take on any off-road track with ease. Finally, the QX4 is equipped with a full-sized tire with matching alloy wheel. Other exterior changes that the Infiniti people point out include color-coded remote-controlled heated out-

temperatures, black privacy glass, intermittent rear

glass wiper, integrated fender flares, side

guards, and step rails with slip-resistant

steps. Yet, in spite of its new rugged appearance, it's an air of quality and luxury.

That impression is reinforced by getting inside.

The light color of the simulated maple-wood trim

steering wheel offset the dark leather seats.

I became acquainted with my surroundings, I

checked the overhead compass, outside temperature display, plus an attractive sporty analog clock

displayed on the dash panel.

The instrument panel has electro-florescent

illumination, making it very easy to read at a quick glance. The new QX4 also features a

Speaker Bose audio system with AM/FM/cassette and an in-dash six CD changer and a video

cassette player.

The leather-wrapped gearshift knob is a nice touch and the eight-way adjustable power seat adds to the luxurious charm — for the driver. The passenger's seat, however, has only four-way controls. Both seats on my tester were heated, a \$600 option. The sunroof was a \$950 option. In addition, the QX4 has a spacious interior, easy access to the respectable-sized storage area, plus a roof

rack.

The QX4 with 4x4 has a base price of \$35,550. This is the same price as the 2000 model, even with some major improvements. For those wanting a 4x2, it is available for \$34,150. Add to both a \$525 destination charge. Other options include a navigation system, cellular connection, sports package, and a premium package that includes the wood-tone, leather-wrapped steering wheel with audio controls and driver memory seats.

These options add to the luxury of this vehicle, but that's only half the story. At no additional cost, Infiniti has improved the QX4's performance. Under the hood is a V6 DOHC 24-valve 3.5-liter aluminum engine connected to a four-speed automatic transmission. It's smooth, powerful, and — best of all — quiet. The power has been increased from 168-hp to 240 hp. And the torque jumps

from 196 to 265 ft-lbs. My tester took the guesswork out of trying to decide between four-wheel drive and all-wheel drive. At the flick of a switch, I could make my choice, and my decision was clearly indicated in an illuminated diagram on the instrument panel. It was so amazingly easy to do I found myself going from a 4x2 to 4WD — just for the fun of it.

SPECIFICATIONS

2001 INFINITI QX4 LSV

VEHICLE TYPE	5-passenger 4-door 4WD or AWD luxury sport utility vehicle
BASE PRICE	\$35,550 (as tested: \$38,225)
ENGINE TYPE	V6 DOHC 24-valve aluminum w/MPI
DISPLACEMENT	3.5-liter
HORSEPOWER (net)	240 at 6000 rpm
TORQUE (lb-ft)	265 at 3200 rpm
TRANSMISSION	4-speed automatic
WHEELBASE	106 in. 2692 mm
TREAD (front/rear)	61 / 61 in. 1549 / 1549 mm
OVERALL LENGTH	183 in. 4648 mm
OVERALL WIDTH	72 in. 1828 mm
HEIGHT	71 in. 96.4 mm
TURNING CIRCLE (curb-to-curb)	37 ft. 11.2 m
CURB WEIGHT	4,352 lbs. 1974 kg
FUEL CAPACITY	21 gals. 79 L
EPA MILEAGE RATING	15 city, 19 highway
ASSEMBLY	Kyushu, Japan
PLANT	Kyushu, Japan
STRONG FEATURE	Power
WEAK FEATURE	Nothing worth mentioning

Spare Parts

SPARE PARTS
Cop cars: In an attempt to attract more sales of the Impala as a police car, Chevrolet has designed the vehicle with police duty in mind. Today's Impala features a six cylinder engine opposed to the V8 engine in the Ford Crown Victoria, which yields an average of 23 mpg compared to 18.7 for the Ford Interceptor. Police officers say they appreciate the automatic seat adjustment, more seat travel, and better battery performance. These are some of the reasons New York City has just purchased 800 units.

POWER PLAYERS: General Motors unveiled the latest enhancements to its already successful full-size truck lineup — all new Heavy-Duty (HD) versions that will be arriving at dealerships next fall. To be marketed as the Chevy Silverado HD and GMC Sierra HD, these heavyweights will boast more powerful gasoline and diesel engines, more capable transmissions and segment-leading tow-haul ratings.

Saab and Fisher: In 1999, Saab Cars USA, Inc. and Gary Fisher — two brands for breaking the rules — teamed up to form Gary Fisher Saab Mountain Bike Race Team. The partnership immediately proved its merits as the team garnered the world championship title and a world cup victory. This year, the partnership's success will be expressed even further as Saab introduces the Saab 9-5 Wagon Gary Fisher Edition.

Rough and tough: Chevrolet expanded its arsenal of hard-working compact pickups with the introduction of the 2001 Chevy S-10 Crew Cab 4x4 pickup, which is scheduled for production in the fall of this year. Debra Kelly-Ennis, the S-10 brand manager says that with its combination of versatility, ruggedness and personal comfort, the Chevy S-10 Crew Cab pickup is ready to tackle any real-life challenge or adventures.

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'97 GMC Yukon 4x4	\$19,775	\$20,575	Good	\$20,995
'97 Toyota Camry	\$23,450	\$24,500	Good	\$24,995
'98 Ford Taurus			Good	\$21,995
'98 GMC Suburban 1500			Good	\$22,895
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'98 Chevrolet Silverado 1500			Good	\$25,500
'97 Toyota Camry			Good	\$26,975

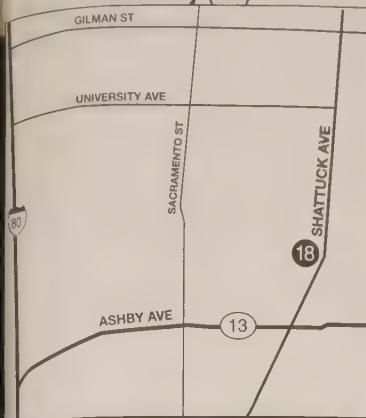
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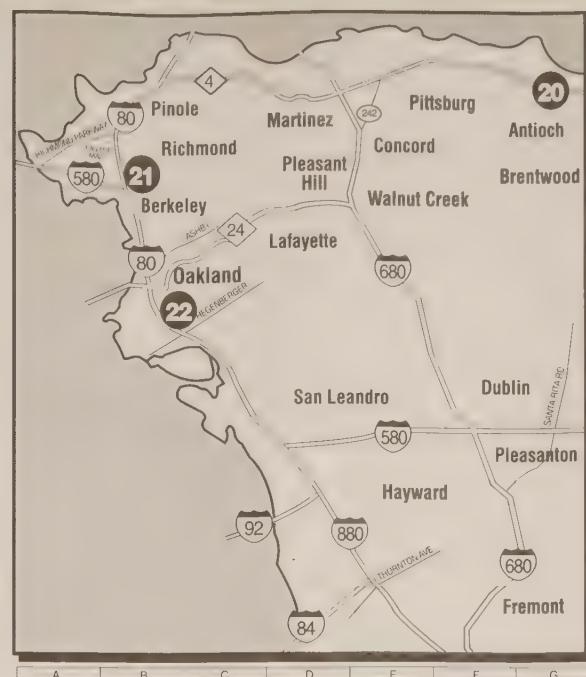
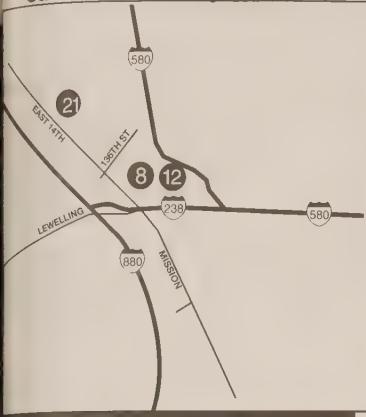
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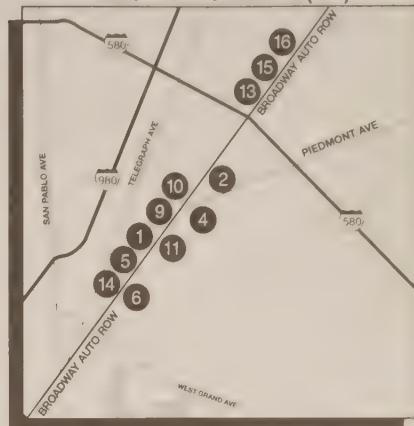
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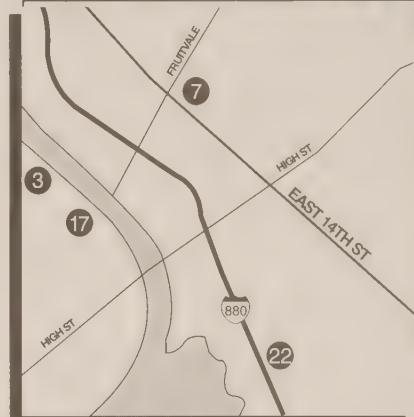
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cond., \$8000 (925) 606-6925

CHRYSLER 75HP outboard

motor, #450 OBO (925)

779-4418

SIX PACK '79 11/2 ft., cab

over, shower, toilet, Heat/A/C,

100% 100% 925/561-7410

FORD '88 F600, 20' box

1600 lb. lift, gate, 3700 lbs,

Allison 5 speed, 925/625-3750

obo (925) 683-5313

FORD '76 F700 Dump Truck

Make off (925) 766-3180

FORK LIFT: Tow motor 6000

lb. capacity, 10 ft. lift, set up,

\$600 (925) 577-0788

'96 FREIGHTLINER FL60,

w/4 van, A/C, ps, 83 Diesel,

6 spd. A/C, air bags, 925/562-1879

CHRYSLER '78 17.5' 101, 140

cu. in. 30000 obo (925) 625-1517

COFFIN '91 17.5' 101, 140

cu. in. 30000 obo (925) 757-2010

FIBERFORM '26' V8, cab

over, bridge, 100% 925/486-2959

FLAT BOTTOM V Drive & trr,

grl. shape, \$4500/B or trade

for 100% Seadoos, 925/486-2959

FOOT '91 FRIEDEAU '45' Van, roll

slide dr., slides, gd. cond.,

\$2K (925) 798-7788

'95 PETER T. 3 exle cabover

4x4, 100% 925/947-6565

TEXOMA CRILL '01, 4x Dzzer

100% for more info, call Jack,

(925) 302-4156

805 Vehicle Parts & Repair

'90 ASTRO VAN, excel body;

'81 RIVERA/guns great, All or

part-out, Call 925/355-2278

CHEVROLET '86 Camaro &

'84 100% 925/355-2278

need work, 925-932-1879

CHEVROLET '78 Silverado

4x4, needs engine, Also 92

Chvy front end 707-745-0642

CHEVROLET Transmission,

700R4, 4L60, 4L70, 4L80, 4L90

925-827-2777

'93 CHEVROLET trans, 700R4

rebuild, \$500. New front/back

seats \$150. 925/947-9058

'95 NISSAN eng. w/5 spd.

trans, 4L60, 4L70, 4L80, 4L90

925-265-4147, 432-5666

USED 6.2 DIESEL ENGINES

FOR SALE, MAKE OFFER,

(925) 787-0788

806 Sport Water Craft

FUN SEADOO '94 SPX, Dbl.

trr., cust. cover, Hrdly used,

\$3500 obo (925) 932-9148

JET SKI KAWASAKI '95 & 97

white, 9000 obo (925) 742-3129

'94 KAWASAKI 750 2 seat,

low hrs, hrs. w/trtr, 925/776-4335

SEADOO '93, 300, good cond.,

925/228-7645

'99 SEADOO '97 GSX, fuel in-

jected, 110 ft., 3-seater,

mint cond., \$4000

SEADOO '97 GTI, w/trtr, 925/617-4681

SEADOO '97 GTI, low hrs,

adult owned/operated, garaged,

fas. w/scr, excel cond.,

925/486-0908

SEADOO, sold new \$369, low

hrs, like new trailer, w/trtr,

xtrns, \$800 (925) 575-5143

'96 SEADOO '97 GSX, 2 seater

w/cover, gd. nr, trr., \$800

SEADOO '97 GSX, 2 seater

w/cover, gd. cond., \$800

SEADOO '97 GSX, 2 seater

w/cover, gd. cond., \$800

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w/cover, gd. cond., \$800

SEADOO '97 GSX, 2 seater

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• \$1400 Offer

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AC, pw, abs, a/c, 5sp

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1997-98 1999-2000

1999-2000 2001-2002

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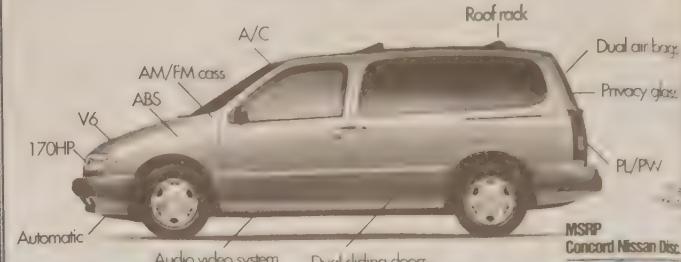
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3.9% OAPR

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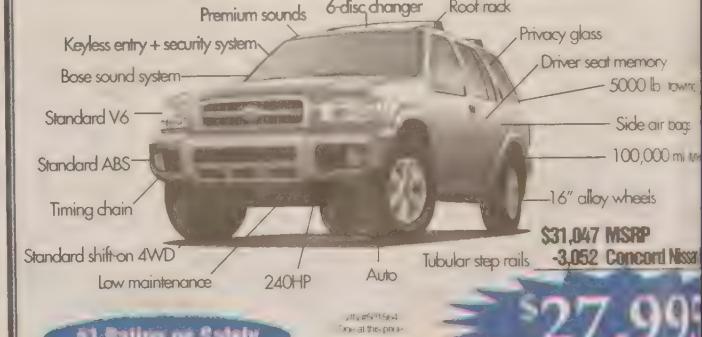
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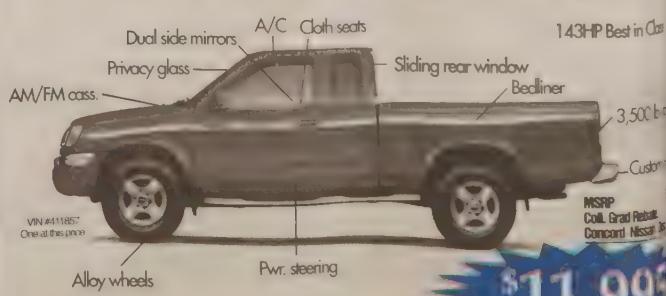
\$27,995

2000 Altima GXE



\$3,000 off MSRP

2000 Frontier King Cab 4x2



\$11,995

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Financing available

* Factory MSRP \$14,197
Hanlees Discount -698
College Grad -500
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\$12,999*

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Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Cass
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Factory MSRP \$22,779
Hanlees Discount -2,780
Your Price \$19,999

\$19,999

3.9% APR Financing Available

2000 ALTIMA GXE

AC, PS, AM/FM CD Cass, Tilt, Cruise #5637/179125

3.9% apr financing available

* Factory MSRP \$18,859
Value Pkg. Disc. -1,000
Dealer Asking MSRP \$17,859
Hanlees Discount \$2,860
Your Price \$14,999

\$14,999*

2000 MAXIMA GXE

PW, PL, AM/FM Cass., Keyless Entry
#5729/758617

MSRP \$21,737
Hanlees Discount \$2,038
Your Price \$19,699

\$19,699*

2000 FRONTIER XE

AC, AM/FM Cass, Bedliner, Sliding Rear Window #5761/345374

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EXTRA CAB

MSRP \$17,527
Value Pkg. Discount -\$1,100
Dealer Asking MSRP \$16,427
Hanlees Discount -\$2,928
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Ready for Delivery
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2000 COROLLA

Automatic

3 TO CHOOSE FROM

Air Cond., AM/FM Cass., Rear Window Defogger, Dual Air Bags, Digital Clock, MORE!

\$11,668

#314577, #406640
#407989 Model #1715

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Air Cond., AM/FM Cass., 4 Spkrs, Rear Window Defogger, Dual Air Bags, Digital Clock, MORE!

\$10,968

#364526, #371036
Model #1714

2000 TACOMA

AM/FM Cassette, Air Cond., Carpeted Floor Mats

\$11,268

Example: #663112
Model #7103

2000 CAMRY LE

AM/FM Cass., Dual Air Bags, Pwr Windows, Pwr Doorlocks, Pwr Driver Seat, CD w/6 Speakers

\$17,238

#470629,
#479436,
#487576, #453600
#461926 Model #2532

2000 RAV 4

Auto, Pwr Windows, Pwr Locks & Mirrors, AM/FM Cass, AC, Cargo Net

\$18,868

Example: #074749
Model #4416

2000 AVALON

V6, Tilt Wheel, Cruise Control, AC, Pwr Windows & Locks, Alloy Wheels, AM/FM Cass/CD, 6 Speakers, ABS, Pwr seat pkg, and more

\$23,868

Example: #048232
Model #3534

2000 4 RUNNER LIMITED 4x4

Auto, Leather, Roof Rack, AC, Running Boards, Power Windows & Locks, Cruise, Privacy Glass

\$4,500 OFF MSRP

Example: #273760
Model #8668

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AC, Pwr Wdws & Locks, AM/FM Cass/CD, Cruise Control, Much More

\$15,968

Example: #047805
Model 2123

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WAS \$7995 NOW \$6,999

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V-6, Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt Whl, Cruise, AM/FM Cass, Alloy Whls #186416/1620P

WAS \$13,999 NOW \$11,899

97 Toyota 4Runner SR5
V6, Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt Whl, Cruise, AM/FM Cass, Moonroof, Running Boards, Alloy Whls. #028870/11439A

CALL US!

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97 Mercury Tracer LS
Auto, AC, Pwr Steering, AM/FM Stereo, Dual Air Bags, Great Commuter #618774/N762

WAS \$13,599 NOW \$6,999

95 Ford Windstar LX
V6, Auto, 7 Pass, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, AM/FM Cass, 4 Whl ABS, Pwr Seat C15564/167P

WAS \$13,599 NOW \$11,999

99 Chevy Silverado 4x4
V8, Auto, AC, Tilt, Cruise Ctrl, AM/FM Cass, Bedliner Tow Pkg, 4 Whl ABS #100392/N715

WAS \$20,999 NOW \$16,999

SOLD!

99 Nissan Altima
Auto, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt Wheel, Cruise, AM/FM Stereo, CD, Dual Air Bags #253718/N773

CALL US!

95 Jeep Wrangler S
Convertible, 4 Wheel Drive, AM/FM Cass. #243730/11117A

WAS \$9995 NOW \$7,599

97 Nissan Pathfinder SE
4x4, V6, AC, PW, PDL, Tilt, Cruise, Cass., CD, Leather, Moonroof, Roof rack & More. #139743/N752

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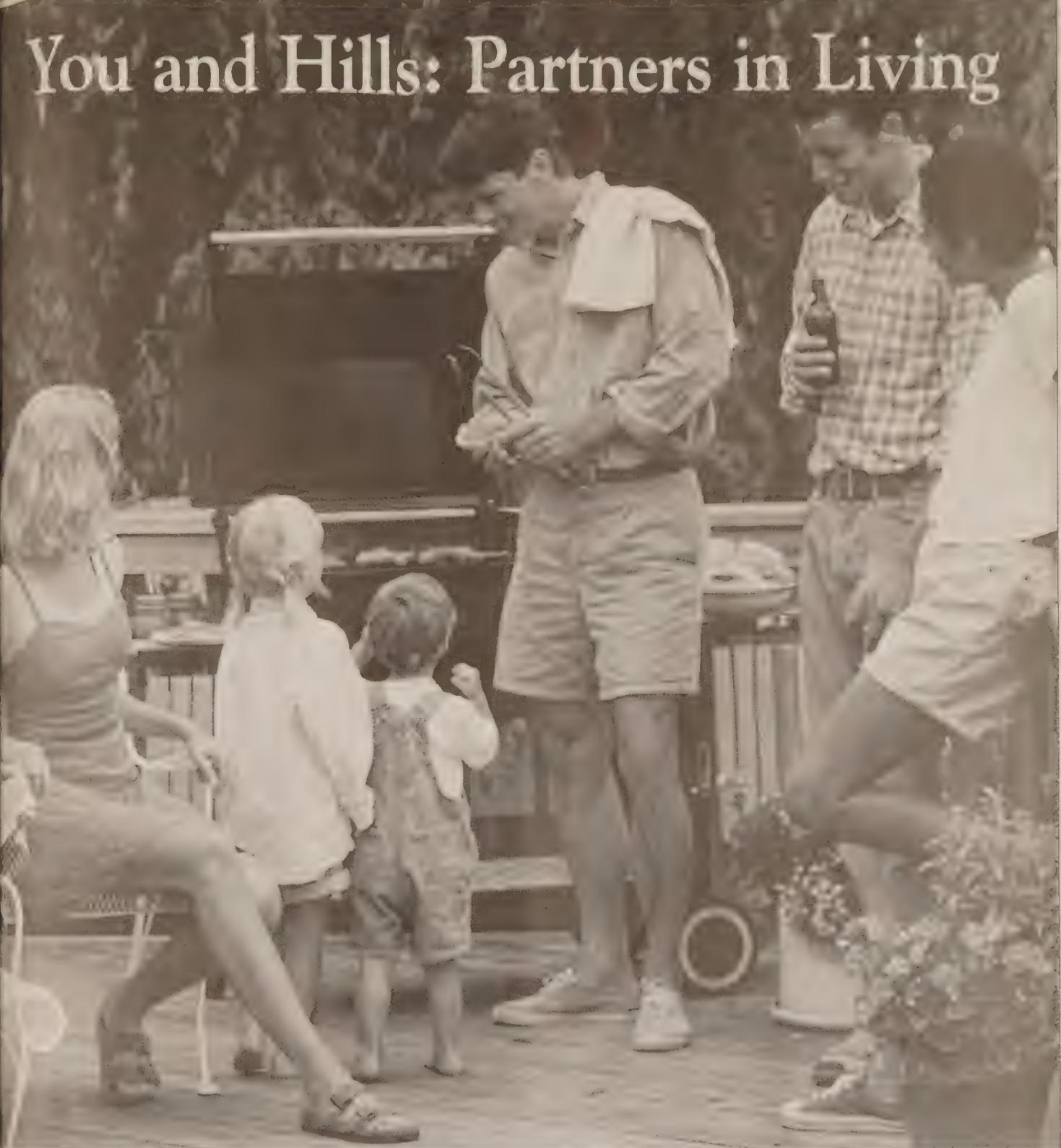
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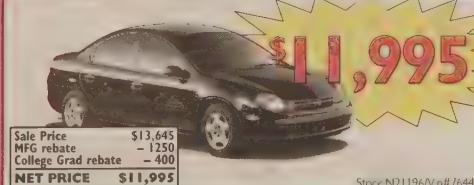
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Outdoor dining at Orinda Theatre Square

By Tuseda A. Griggs
CORRESPONDENT

Though the location is new, Draper has been with the restaurant for nearly 20 years and her co-owner Juan Rivera for nearly 15 years.

The restaurant serves traditional Italian cuisine in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere with prices reasonable enough to bring along the family.

"We try our best to make everybody comfortable," she said. "We get a lot of families and couples. We get everything from people in jeans to evening gowns depending on what they're doing."

Please see FLAVIO'S, Page 2



KATHLEEN BELLESILES/STAFF

AN INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE and smiling waitresses make for child-friendly dining at Flavio's.



AL FRESCO DINING makes a visit to Orinda Theatre Square special. Sharon McCoy serves Italian fare to Summer Adams and Brett Christman at Flavio's, above. For more about Flavio's, see page 2.

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CHEF FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ keeps things hot at Flavio's Pasta Forum in Orinda Theatre Square.

Flavio's

FROM PAGE 1

Rivera and Francisco Hernandez, both originally from Mexico, prepare Flavio's traditional Italian fare in Flavio's exhibition kitchen.

A large opening makes it possible for patrons to watch flames from the stoves as their food is being prepared.

"We're like the Cheers of restaurants," she said. "We have a lot of customers that we're familiar with, regulars who come in frequently."

Maybe it's the customary Italian edibles like spaghetti, ravioli, lasagna, fettuccini and tortellini.

Or maybe it's the unusual dishes like gnocchi, a potato dumpling sautéed in garlic with bell pepper in red wine/tomato sauce.

Or escargots served with butter, garlic and spice.

The list for meat and chicken dishes is a deliciously lengthy one that includes veal parmigiana, veal piccata, chicken citron and chicken cacciatoro.

For dessert diners can choose from gelato, New York-style cheesecake, spumoni or Italian rum cake.

Prices begin at \$6 for lunch, and are \$12 to \$15 for dinner including soup, salad and garlic bread.

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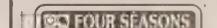
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Ode to spring: an Asian wrap song

Kathleen Purvis
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

What's the difference between a spring roll and an egg roll? As simple-sounding questions go, you can put that one up there with some great conundrums, like that one about the chicken or the egg, or the one about whether a tree falling in the forest with no one to hear it makes a sound.

Short answer: There's no such thing as an egg roll. It's really just a Chinese spring roll that got made with a cheaper, egg-based wrapper when Cantonese chefs came to America.

But that's not completely true, because there are egg rolls in Vietnam, made with egg-based crepe wrappers, which have a fancy reputation because they came from Hue, which used to be Vietnam's imperial city.

And just about the time you get used to thinking of fried egg rolls as spring rolls, you go to an Asian restaurant, order a spring roll and get something that isn't fried at all.

That's a really good question. It's like night and day, really. A spring roll is the authentic version of what we have come to know as the egg roll."

In China, the New Year's banquet table was filled with foods that were not only made with expensive ingredients, but that also were supposed to resemble expensive things, to symbolize prosperity in the coming year.

Crispy spring rolls, fried golden brown, were supposed to look like stacks of gold bars. They were called spring rolls because, under the lunar calendar, New Year's marked the start of spring.

Then there's the whole business of the wrapper, which is an egg-based pastalike dough in America, but is rice paper in some places and more like a crepe, called lumpia, in others. And sometimes the whole thing is wrapped in a lettuce leaf. But sometimes it isn't.

Good heavens. Who knew the spring roll would turn out to be the real riddle wrapped in a mystery

wrapped in an enigma?

To unravel the intricacies, we turned to Nina Simonds. The author of "A Spoonful of Ginger," which tackled the subject of healing foods in Asia, Simonds has spent many years there. These days she lives near Boston. And her new book is much simpler: "Asian Wraps" (Morrow, \$23).

Simonds traces her passion for wrapped foods back to her first experience, at 7 or 8, with moo shu pork, at a restaurant near Boston owned by Joyce Chen.

"I love to eat with my hands. I think a lot of people do. It's very primal, the idea of taking this wrap and spreading a little of this luscious sauce on it and putting this stir-fried food in it. It really, in a way, started a love affair that I've always had with wrapped dishes."

So, back to that egg roll vs. spring roll thing.

"That's a really good question. It's like night and day, really. A spring roll is the authentic version of what we have come to know as the egg roll."

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The irony was that while the spring roll was fancy food in China, when it came to America, it became something that was cheap to make.

"The authentic spring roll," says Simonds, "is not only very thin, it's elegant, actually."

"The egg roll is rather, in a way, coarse. It's stodgy looking. It's filled with cabbage, vs. this elegant, thin bar of gold that's stuffed with expensive ingredients."

But what about Thai and Vietnamese cuisine, where you find a spring roll that isn't fried at all?

"It's really hard to make a generalization," says Simonds. "Many restaurants do it differently. Even in Vietnam, they're called spring rolls and they say 'fried' or 'fresh.'"

Both are made with rice paper, a rice-flour-based wrapper that becomes almost translucent when it's soaked in water. The difference is the filling, says Simonds. Fresh spring rolls usually have thin rice noodles, fresh herbs — usually mint, cilantro, Thai basil or all three — lettuce and shrimp, sometimes with barbecued pork mixed in. A fried spring roll usually has a ground meat filling and cellophane noodles or bean threads instead of rice noodles.

The presentation can be different, too. In the Thai version, fresh spring rolls are often wrapped in lettuce and fresh herbs. In Vietnam, fried ones are wrapped in lettuce.

"The Vietnamese really love that juxtaposition of fresh and cooked, fresh herbs and cooked food," says Simonds. "It is there in Thai cook-

ing in certain dishes. But you really see it more in Vietnamese."

In America, we mostly encounter spring roll and egg roll — fried and fresh. But in Asia, the variety is endless. There are creplike wrappers, called lumpia, which are often found in the Philippines and China and are served fresh or fried. There are pancakes, like Simonds' beloved moo shu pork or like Vietnamese shrimp pancake, which is made with rice powder and coconut milk. Even a simple lettuce leaf, wrapped around grilled meat, is an Asian tradition, Simonds says.

"What people will find most surprising is the versatility of wraps. They are great appetizers. They're great entrees. They're great salads I love that. I love that versatility. They're elegant, but they can be casual. They're basic, but they're refined."

"There's a beauty in that. And you can eat them with your hands."

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Fresh Vietnamese Spring Rolls

From "Asian Wraps," by Nina Simonds (Morrow, \$23). These can be made several hours in advance. Cover with a moist towel and refrigerate.

Makes 24 rolls.

6 ounces thin rice stick noodles or vermicelli

24 round rice paper wrappers

Please see ROLLS, Page 4

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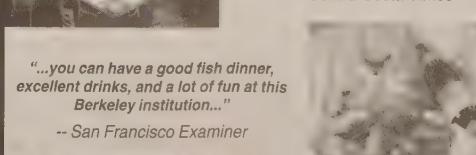


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Rolls

FROM PAGE D3

1 1/2 heads Boston lettuce
2 carrots, shredded or grated
3/4 cup mint leaves, coarsely shredded
3/4 cup cilantro leaves, coarsely shredded
3/4 pound shrimp, cooked, peeled

Peanut Sauce (see recipe)

Bring 3 quarts of water to boil. Add noodles, swish around, and cook 1 minute. Drain, refresh under cold running water and drain again.

Remove core from lettuce. Separate leaves, rinse and drain well, then press each leaf to flatten. Cut shrimp in half lengthwise and remove vein. Spread out a cotton dish towel on work surface. Place noodles, lettuce leaves, carrots, mint, cilantro and shrimp within easy reach.

Fill a wide dish or pan with hot water. Dip one wrapper in hot water for several seconds, until beginning to soften. (Wrapper may still be stiff but will soften as you work.) Spread wrapper on towel. Place a lettuce leaf over the bottom third of the wrapper. Top with about 2 tablespoons rice noodles and 1 tablespoon shredded carrot. Sprinkle with mint and cilantro. Fold bottom of wrapper over lettuce leaf, tucking together tightly. Fold in the two sides. Arrange 2 or 3 shrimp halves, cut side down, in a row across the top of the folded section. Roll into a tight cylinder so shrimp show through. Place on platter and cover with a moist towel.

Serve cold with Peanut Sauce.

Peanut Sauce

From "Asian Wraps" by Nina Simonds. Although the recipe didn't call for it, we liked this with some chopped peanuts sprinkled on top.

Makes 3/4 cup.

2 tablespoons smooth peanut butter

1 1/2 teaspoons tomato paste

1/4 cup hoisin sauce

1 teaspoon sugar

1/3 cup water

1 teaspoon safflower or corn oil

1 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic

1 teaspoon crushed red pepper

In a small bowl, combine peanut butter, tomato paste, hoisin, sugar and water. Blend until smooth. Heat a small heavy sauceman over medium-high heat. Add oil, heat until hot and add garlic and red pepper. Fry 5 seconds. Add peanut butter mixture, stir to blend and

cook 3 to 4 minutes, until thickened. Remove from heat. Cool slightly. Serve warm or at room temperature. Can be covered and refrigerated up to a week.

Salmon Spring Rolls

Marinade:
1/4 cup seasoned rice vinegar
1/4 cup fresh lime juice
2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
1 teaspoon peeled, grated fresh ginger

Salt and pepper to taste

For rolls:
1 pound salmon fillet, skinned

12 round rice paper wrappers

About 1/2 cup cilantro leaves

2 tablespoons finely chopped scallion tops

Vegetable oil for frying

In a large bowl, whisk together the marinade ingredients. Cut the salmon crosswise into 12 pieces, each about 2 1/2 by 1 inch. Add to marinade. Marinate 30 minutes, turning pieces occasionally. (Don't leave in marinade longer than that or acid in lime juice will begin to cook the fish.)

Remove salmon from marinade and pat dry with paper towels. Fill a shallow pan or bowl with warm water. Soak 1 rice paper wrapper until soft, about 30 seconds. Place wrapper on a paper towel and blot dry with a second paper towel. Arrange 1 piece of salmon across the bottom half of the wrapper. Top with about 4 cilantro leaves and 1 teaspoon scallion greens. Sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste. Fold over bottom of wrapper and fold in the two sides. Roll up tightly. Place on platter or baking sheet and cover with a damp towel. Roll up remaining wrappers.

In a deep, 12-inch nonstick skillet or in a wok, heat 1/2 inch oil over medium-high heat until hot but not smoking. Fry rolls 4 at a time, turning once, until golden brown and salmon is cooked through, about 3 minutes. Drain on paper towels while you fry the remaining rolls.

Serve with a dipping sauce, such as Sweet and Sour Fish Sauce or Peanut Sauce.

—Adapted from Gourmet magazine, March 1995.

From "The Vietnamese Cookbook," by Diana My Tran (Capital Books, \$25). There are many variations on this sauce, called Nuoc Mam, and Vietnamese families often have their own recipe. Many versions also include a little grated carrot. This version is very simple and versatile. Fish sauce is available in Asian markets and some well-stocked supermarkets.

Sweet and Sour Fish Sauce

Makes about 1 cup.
2 cloves garlic, finely minced
3 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons fresh lime or lemon juice
1/2 cup warm water
6 tablespoons fish sauce
1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper flakes (optional)

In a small bowl, mix garlic, sugar, lime or lemon juice, water and fish sauce until the sugar is completely dissolved. Stir in red pepper flakes. Keep refrigerated.

From "James McNair's Favorites," by James McNair (Chronicle, 1999). These can be made in advance and frozen before frying. Pork, beef or crab are also often used in versions of these rolls. We also tried the filling with lumpia wrappers, available in Asian markets, and found the lumpia are also tasty and very crisp.

Fried Vietnamese Spring Rolls

Makes 24 rolls.

Filling:

2 ounces very thin dried rice noodles
8 ounces shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 pound finely ground chicken breast (see note)

1/2 cup finely chopped chives or scallions, including green tops
1/4 cup finely minced carrots
1 teaspoon salt, or to taste
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, or to taste

For rolls:

Vegetable oil or cooking spray
About 24 round rice paper wrappers

About 24 large, crisp lettuce leaves

1 cup packed fresh cilantro leaves

1 cup packed fresh mint leaves
Canola or peanut oil for frying
Sweet and Sour Fish Sauce (see recipe)

To make filling: Break noodles into short lengths and place in a bowl. Add hot water to cover and let stand, stirring occasionally, until softened but still firm to the bite, about 15 minutes. Drain in a colander and rinse under cold running water. Transfer to a cutting board, chop coarsely, and set aside.

Quick rinse the shrimp under cold running water and pat dry with paper towels. Coarsely chop and add to the noodles. Add the remaining filling ingredients, mix well

Please see ROLLS, Page 5

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CALIFORNIA WITH A TOUCH OF EUROPE is the look in Shelby's dining room. The food borrows from Italy, Germany and France — but has a local flavor as well.

Tradition gets a twist at Euro-styled Shelby's

By Tuseda A. Griggs
CORRESPONDENT

It almost sounds cliché to say a restaurant changed someone's life. But the cliché is true for Carol Farrior's daughter Shelby.

When Farrior decided to open Shelby's in Orinda's Theatre Square about six years ago, her daughter was attending Santa Barbara City College with an undeclared major. Now Shelby has graduated from the California Culinary Institute and plans to open a catering business in Sonoma County.

Shelby's part-ownership of the restaurant exposed her to the world of culinary delights and changed her career path in the process. Shelby's name is on the establishment, but Farrior runs it.

"When we first walked through the square it looked so European. We just loved it," Farrior said.

Shelby's is an open, airy restaurant with large windows. Pastel colors abound, with grays, greens, and marbleized peach.

The pair started serving breakfast and lunch daily, with dinner on the weekends. It has evolved to serving a daily quick turn-around lunch for people who work in the neighborhood, and dinner.

Chef Lorenzo Kesevan, a graduate of the Diablo Valley College Culinary Program, spent a year studying cuisine in Italy and has worked at various restaurants in San Francisco including the Fairmont Hotel.

"His entrees are beautiful," said

Farrior. "They're always delicious but they're nice to look at too."

The lunch menu offers pizzas with goat cheese, sundried tomatoes, grilled chicken, sautéed mushrooms, caramelized onions, yellow bell peppers or eggplant.

Children can choose from favorites like a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a grilled cheese sandwich, plain turkey sandwich or noo-bell peppers with butter.

Salads are also popular lunchtime fare.

Shelby's offers a salad sampler with a taste of three different deli salads plus the house mixed green salad. Deli salads include Chinese chicken salad with fried wontons and sesame vinaigrette, or a spinach salad with bean sprouts, green apples, grana cheese, red onions and soy vinaigrette. Prices begin at \$4.50. A grilled chicken breast can be added to the salads for an additional \$2.

"We do everything fresh," Farrior said. "That's very important for foods like salad and soups. We have a huge menu. People come in and they can't believe how many items we serve. But we make sure that everything is fresh."

Traditional sandwiches are given a twist. A ham sandwich becomes a Black Forest Ham sandwich on grilled sourdough, or Hot Ham and Brie on a baguette with hot or sweet mustard and caramelized onions.

There's also a grilled eggplant sandwich with cream cheese, basil, tomato and sundried tapenade or

grilled portobello. And Shelby's has hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken burgers.

The dinner menu changes weekly. A recent sampling included an appetizer of crispy fried Monterey Bay calamari served with roasted garlic, lemon and chive dipping sauce and Meyer lemon. Entrees included risotto with baby squash, fresh English peas, squash

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Shelby's, Flavio's and Caffe Teatro will co-sponsor live music 6:30-8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays July 14-Sept. 30 in the dining plaza.

blossoms and scamorza cheese or grilled center cut Angus filet mignon wrapped with applewood smoked bacon, roasted wild mushrooms, port wine and white peppercorn sauce, asparagus tips and sweet corn risotto cake.

Prices range from \$7 for appetizers to \$21.95 for the filet mignon.

Shelby's also does specialty dinners. For Cinco de Mayo the chef featured Mexican dishes. And for

summer enjoyment Shelby's and Flavio's restaurant will co-sponsor a concert series with live music Friday and Saturday nights beginning July 7. The music will begin at 6:30 p.m. through 8:30 p.m. in the pavilion between the restaurants.

Recipes:

Grilled center cut Angus filet mignon

Wrapped with applewood smoked bacon and served sweet corn risotto cake and roasted wild mushrooms in a port wine and white peppercorn sauce

Ingredients:

2 10 oz. center cut filet steaks
2 slices smoked bacon
2 corn risotto cakes (recipe follows)
1 oz. Fresh morel mushrooms
1 oz. Shiitake mushrooms
1/4 oz. Dried porcini mushrooms soaked in beef broth
2 peeled asparagus
2 baby carrots
2 baby zucchini
10-12 haricot vert (French green beans)
4 oz. Port wine demi-glace (recipe follows)

Risotto cake:

1/4 cup diced yellow onion
1 cup white corn kernels
1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
1/2 cup arborio rice
4 cups vegetable stock
1 tablespoon unsalted butter

Please see SHELBY'S, Page 7

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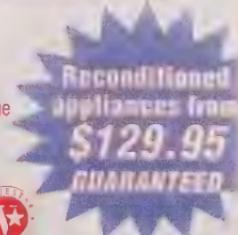
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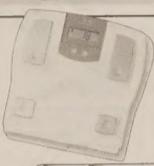
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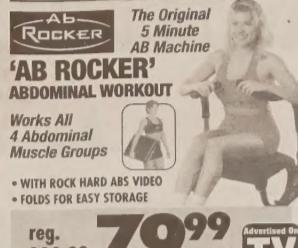
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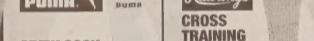
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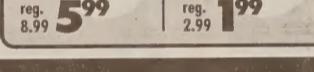
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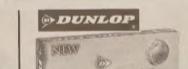
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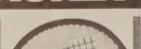
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